

## French swing to left shown in local elections

First computer estimates after the polls closed in the first round of France's municipal elections yesterday appeared to confirm that the left has been making inroads into the Government majority. In Paris M Jacques Chirac, the former Prime Minister, was ahead of his official rival, M Michel D'Ornano.

## M Chirac is ahead of official rival in Paris

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, March 13

The first ballot of the municipal elections, held today, showed a strong advance of the left in the provinces, according to early computer predictions. In Paris predictions gave it 40 per cent, compared with 28 per cent for M Jacques Chirac, the former Prime Minister, and 20 per cent for M Michel d'Ornano, the Government's official candidate.

More than 20 towns of more than 30,000 inhabitants have been lost by the Government majority. The number of voters was about 70 per cent, compared with 75 per cent in 1971.

In most cases the credit for this progress of the left goes to the Socialist Party. The Communists, however, have done better. They have held their ground, according to their projections. In the towns they already controlled and showed up well where they led the left in the battle against the Government, as well as at Rennes and Evreux, in Normandy, where six years ago the Socialists were ahead. The predicted fall in the left of Brest and Rennes confirms its advance in Brittany and the west.

Where the Communists and Socialists could not agree, the Socialists claimed the better score. In Marseille, for instance, M Gaston Defferre, the Socialist mayor, appeared to be leading in seven out of the eight districts of the city.

One of the striking features is the remarkable polling achieved by the ecologists. In Paris and elsewhere in the country, they will be among those holding the balance in the second run-off ballot next Sunday.

The success of the left is not purely mechanical. It is predictable to get control of towns like Angers and Dreux which it was never remotely expected to win. Even where the town hall was held by a minister, the left-wing steersman seems to have prevailed as at St Etienne where M Durand, the Minister of Finance, faced a difficult run-off seat Sunday, to the Communists in the lead.

M Chirac, summing up, the first predictions, said that when the majority was galvanised, it rejected the left's advice. "I see in this the justification of my action on the 'national plane'."

Some non-party voters also seem to have backed the Socialists, in spite of their alliance with the Communists.

Photograph, page 6



A man being arrested after a placard was thrown at the Queen in Sydney's Botanical Gardens yesterday.

## Protester's placard 'hits the Queen'

From Roger Berthoud, Sydney, March 13

A protester's cardboard placard saying on one side: "Kerr, the last Governor-General", and on the other "Independence for Australia", was thrown at the Queen as she drove in an open car through Sydney's Botanical Gardens today.

According to one eye-witness, it struck her face and fell to the floor of the car. But Mr Ronald Allison, the Queen's press secretary, said that the placard did not hit the Queen, but simply landed in the car.

A 29-year-old man was arrested and led away in handcuffs. He will appear in court tomorrow morning charged with offensive behaviour. The incident occurred when the Queen was being driven to unveil a plaque naming a path in the gardens Queen Elizabeth Walk. The demonstrators, who

## Mr Carter planning to travel in Britain

From Fred Emery, Washington, March 13

President Carter is planning to travel in Britain outside London when he attends the Downing Street summit in May. This is one product of the exceptionally cordial meeting here from which Mr Callaghan, the British Prime Minister, returned home today.

The British tour is intended as an earnest of the special place the President intends giving to what he has called the "mother country", authoritative Administration sources say. And, they add, it is meant to be a gesture to Mr Callaghan personally in return for the praise he lavished while here on Mr Carter and the infant Administration.

One well-placed source, who said that the precise itinerary must await further planning, suggested it was Mr Carter's way of "showing what we can do for Mr Callaghan".

The last such gesture was when Dr Kissinger, as Secretary of State, flew to Cardiff to attend the ceremony of bestowing the freedom of the city on Mr Callaghan.

Mr Carter was unlikely to go to Cardiff, one source said, but he might be interested in being seen down on the farm with Mr Callaghan.

The Prime Minister left behind him a spirited defence of socialism in Britain, which was nationally televised today. Told in an American Broadcasting Company interview that

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Link with life: For 187 hours, Mrs Elena Enache, a 58-year-old teacher, was buried in the wreckage of a Bucharest 10-storey building, after the recent earthquake. Her transistor radio gave her news of the rescue attempt and helped to maintain her will to live. She was still clapping the radio when she was extricated from the debris and taken to hospital, where the above photograph was taken.

## Leyland may drop long-term project and shed 25,000 jobs

By Edward Townsend

Concerted efforts to be made this week to end the British Leyland toolmakers' strike will not avert a full review of the car division's operations, with the prospect of tens of thousands fewer jobs in the next year or two and the pruning of the chances of the left coming of age.

The union of the Left, made up of Communists, Socialists and left-wing Radicals, by introducing party politics into the strike, has produced an unprecedented polarization of local elections.

In 1965 and 1971, triangular contests between the Government majority, the Socialists allied to opposition Centrists and the Communists, were the normal pattern in most of the larger towns. This time they are the exception.

The opposition Centrists have joined the Government majority since the presidential elections in 1974, and the Socialists and Communists are going into battle united in 202 out of 221 towns of more than 30,000 inhabitants. The Government majority, for its part, is united in 204 of them.

The battle for Paris has inevitably been the centre of attention and has tended to monopolise interest. Paris is an exceptional political prize, and the office of mayor is destined to become second only in influence and power to the President's. The majority has split sharply over its possession and the left has seen its chance in this fractious conflict.

To provide the capital with a left-wing mayor, the Opposition will have to win four central districts from the majority, in addition to the five it holds already.

Photograph, page 6

the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers (AUEW) for a return to work, immediate Government intervention is being ruled out. However, Mr Booth, Secretary of State for Employment, is said to be ready to intervene.

The strike is costing Leyland £5m between £10m and £15m a week and, although the company's 1976 profits were about £75m that is insufficient to sustain a prolonged closure. Eleven of the 18 car assembly lines are halted and 40,000 workers laid off.

The cash flow position of the state-controlled company is reaching a critical point. The end of March deadline imposed by Mr Verity, Secretary of State for Industry, suggests that British Leyland could struggle on until then, but by

mid-April its bankers may at the least be calling for guarantees from the Government.

Once the deadline has been reached the Government will be under intense pressure to intervene and save as many jobs as possible within the car factories and component suppliers' plants. There is also a growing opinion within Leyland that the Government may bring in an independent mediator to attempt to resolve the toolmakers' dispute.

Leyland, however, is certain to tell its main shareholder, the National Enterprise Board, that even with the continued injection of investment capital from public sources it must now concentrate on short-term measures to sustain earnings rather than the long-term Ryder plan.

That could mean the loss of

## Improved offer after Benn intervention ends Windscale strike

By John Chartres

The six-week-old strike by nearly 3,000 workers at the Windscale nuclear power plants is due to end this morning. The long and bitter dispute, which closed one of the world's biggest commercial nuclear complexes, was resolved yesterday, 48 hours after the intervention of Mr Benn, Secretary of State for Energy.

A fresh offer from British Nuclear Fuels of £120 in cash and an increase in the special conditions allowance of 2½p an hour, subject to further negotiations, was accepted by a 2-1 vote at a meeting of about 2,500 of the men involved.

The settlement came just in time to prevent a possibly ugly situation later this week, because officials of British Nuclear Fuels had made it clear that essential supplies of nitrogen gas would have to be taken past picket lines by Wednesday to ensure the safety of certain parts of the plant. That might have involved the use of troops or even helicopter.

Last week's decision by the pickets to turn away twice a tanker of nitrogen, needed to maintain fire-prevention stocks, surprised the management, for until then they had cooperated on safety. And Mr William Maxwell, the shop stewards' leader, suggested yesterday that that was the "trump card" that had drawn attention to the dispute in London, taken Mr Benn to Cumbria and led to his giving instructions

to the shop stewards, many of whom worked on for four hours to ensure that proper close-down procedures were carried out.

The strikers have been particularly bitter at their low wage rates and have alleged that men employed by private contractors and others on staff conditions earn disproportionately more for working under the same hazards. Mr Maxwell said yesterday that the latest offer showed that Windscale was now recognized as a special site.

The passing centuries gradually dilapidated the tomb.

The Duke of Norfolk, who is also Baron Howard of Glosop, has now restored it and the other Howard tombs in Framlingham Church. He is inviting all Howards to an ecumenical service to re-hallow the tombs on July 9.

In a roll-call of feudal grandeur, which sounds like lines from one of Shakespeare's historical plays, the Earls of Carlisle, Eflingham, Suffolk and Berkshire, and Wicklow, and Barons Howard of Penrith and Strathcona have been summoned, along with the heads of other branches of the ramified Howard family.

Other Howards who wish to attend should take note of this, the only intimation, and write for tickets to the Rector of Framlingham, the Rev David Pitcher. A large gathering of Howards is expected, and those without tickets may not find room in the church.

Mr Jeffrey Root, Labour MP for Birmingham Perry Barr, said yesterday he had made a formal request to the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service for it to offer assistance to both sides.

Leaders of the 21 unions represented within Leyland Cars will meet Mr Pat Lowry, the company's personnel director, to see if there is a formula to meet the toolmakers' demands for separate negotiating rights will be found.

After last week's rejection of Mr Scanlon's plan, Lord Ryder, chairman of the

National Enterprise Board, called in Mr Lowry and Mr Alex Park, British Leyland's chief executive, and it is understood, suggested that they agree to meet the toolmakers' leaders. But such a move is unlikely, particularly as it would be seen as undermining Mr Scanlon's stand.

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The leader of the strikers, Mr Roy Fraser, yesterday dismissed warnings about Leyland's future. "Leyland is a very viable company. Every summer we have two weeks' holiday but nobody talks about the company collapsing."

Imports protest, page 2

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that negotiations should be

resumed.

Until Mr Benn's visit, BNFL officials had maintained that they could not go beyond their offer of 1p an hour on the special conditions allowance without breaching the pay code. It was not clear yesterday whether Mr Benn had told the management that they could go further.

The lump-sum payment of £120 was seen by many of the strikers yesterday as an admission that to some extent they had been "locked out" of work through no fault of their own.

The dispute began in January when 32 men who issue protective clothing struck because of their conditions of work, which paid to the men to whom they issued the clothing.

Workers who could not get to their jobs because they could not draw the essential clothing were sent home without pay although, according to the shop stewards, many of them worked on for four hours to ensure that proper close-down procedures were carried out.

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Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey, was a wild, ambitious and highly talented young man who fell in the sabre-toothed power struggle for the succession when Henry VIII was dying.

He nearly married Henry's daughter Mary. And his fiery temper earned him the title of "the most foolish proud boy that is in England".

He was condemned and executed on frivolous charges of treasonably quartering the company collapsing."

Imports protest, page 2

Continued on page 5, col 3

## Tate and Lyle Limited

In our issue of January 27, 1977, we published an article by Maurice Corina concerning the report of the Comptroller and Auditor-General on the arrangements for the supply of cane sugar in 1975, in which we suggested that the Comptroller and Auditor-General had made grave criticisms of Tate & Lyle.

On a closer reading of the report we now recognise that our interpretation of it was unwarranted, and we accept that there was no indication in the report that the conduct of Tate & Lyle throughout was anything other than correct; and that when accidental errors were made in calculating the costs and profit properly attributable, Tate &

Lyle took the initiative in notifying the Government and fully cooperated in correcting them. There was no "double book-keeping". We are now informed by Tate & Lyle that at no time did it receive from the Government under the Price Equalisation Scheme payments in excess of the amount due.

We also accept that a suggestion made in the article that there was a connexion between these matters and the Government's decision not to refer to the Monopolies Commission Tate & Lyle's bid for Manbré and Garçon was incorrect.

We express our sincere apologies to Tate & Lyle for the unjustifiable aspersions contained in the article.

## By popular demand, the Hele-Hele Bago Quiere comes back to the Hilton.



20 beautiful Philippine girls exotically dancing the Jota de Paragua, the Hele-Hele Bago Quiere and the Bamboo Dance (among others) are likely to be a popular event.

So popular were they last time they appeared at the Hilton that we've asked them to come back again.

If you'd like to watch them for the first or second time, ring 01-493 8000 now to reserve your dinner table.

Fiesta Filipina Dance Company, at the London Hilton Roof Restaurant, 8th March-2nd April.

## Policeman dies in Ulster car ambush

A policeman in the Royal Ulster Constabulary was shot dead last night when a police car was ambushed near Lisnaskea, Co Fermanagh. The Provisional IRA were believed to have been responsible. Police Constable William David Brown, aged 18, was the hundredth member of the RUC to be killed during the present emergency. He was also the youngest and joined the force in June last year. Another constable in the car was hit in the arm and a policewoman was hurt when the vehicle crashed.

Media clash, page 2

## Devolution pessimism

Labour pessimism over the fate of the devolution Bill remains profound after the conference of the party in Scotland. Ministers expect to go into the May local elections unable to do more than repeat the party's commitment to devolution.

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Page 4

## Charter 77 man dies

Professor Jan Patocka, a leading member of Charter 77, the Czechoslovak civil rights movement, has died in Prague after suffering a cerebral haemorrhage. Professor Patocka was admitted to hospital shortly after being questioned by police for 11 hours.

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All public demonstrations in Rome have been banned until further notice. The decision comes after a weekend of violence in the capital and in other Italian cities including Bologna and Turin. Fourteen policemen were injured in clashes with students

Page 6

Move against BBC: A Glasgow solicitor is to seek a court order today to prevent the BBC showing a film in which youths produced hatchets and a sword.

Page 11

Pakistan: Strikes and protests against alleged rigging of election to go ahead in spite of offer of meeting from Mr Bhutto

## HOME NEWS

## Protest by MP over Korean car imports

Mr Eric Hoyle, Labour MP for Nelson and Colne, is to protest to the Commons that a deal made in Korea with British help may soon make a "massive" incursion into the British market at the expense of Leyland.

The Pony car, which is expected to sell in Europe from about £2,000, is made by the Hyundai company in Korea. Mr Hoyle said: "Not only did the expertise of former Leyland employees help to start this company but, even more ironic, Leyland did the tooling for it."

"Because of that, which I regard as a scandal in itself, there was no difficulty for the taking of the new Mini. So the contract went to Fords, who were producing a rival to the Mini."

Mr Hoyle said the influx of the Pony into Britain would be "the greatest demonstration of self-inflicted wounds our home motor industry has yet indulged in."

Mr Hoyle says that British engineers are testing the Pony, which is on display at the Geneva motor show this week, to give it the "go-ahead" to be sold in this country. At a time when British Leyland were in difficulties the new Korean company was emerging as a serious competitor.

British Leyland said yesterday that it had done tooling work for Hyundai but it would not affect the new Mini. The tooling work being done by Fords was personally responsible to the director-general for every BBC programme relating to the province. All plays

## Man in the news: Mr Richard Francis Standing up to the BBC's critics

From Christopher Walker  
Belfast

Behind the presenters whose faces are familiar to the viewing public, the man at the heart of the new controversy over BBC coverage of events in Northern Ireland is Mr Richard Francis.

An affable Yorkshireman, whose relaxed manner belies the daily pressures of his job, he has been regional controller since September, 1973, and at the age of 43 is tipped in some circles as a potential future director-general.

Mr Airey Neave, Conservative spokesman on Northern Ireland, has joined the growing list of critics who have raised the wider question of the corporation's role during a terrorist campaign in the wake of the *Tonight* programme's allegations against Belfast detectives.

In addition, the local television current affairs programme, *Spotlight*, is being "blocked" by technicians after an interview with an unnamed member of fringe republican grouping, the Irish National Liberation Army.

As well as overseeing the output of BBC Northern Ireland, Mr Francis is personally responsible to the director-general for every BBC programme relating to the province. All plays



Mr Richard Francis: "Truth is indivisible."

about Ulster have to be seen in advance and all documentary producers from London have raised the wider question of the corporation's role during a terrorist campaign in the wake of the *Tonight* programme's allegations against Belfast detectives.

In addition, the local television current affairs programme, *Spotlight*, is being "blocked" by technicians after an interview with an unnamed member of fringe republican grouping, the Irish National Liberation Army.

Although BBC staff he is noted and respected for the frequency with which he has stood up to government pressure and to the continued coverage of self-styled terrorism from local politicians on either side of the religious divide.

Soon after his arrival at the heavily guarded Broadcasting House in Belfast he was plunged

into the complexities of the Ulster workers' strike.

That gave him ample scope to demonstrate the BBC's determination to maintain its independence in the face of difficulties never before experienced in British broadcasting.

Mr Francis' comments add to criticisms made by Mr Mason, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, and will intensify comments that are being made at Westminster.

Speaking in his Abingdon constituency on Saturday, Mr Neave said: "We are facing the prospect of war in Northern Ireland. The security forces may make arrests but skillful propaganda is as lethal as a gun or a bomb. A review of present attitudes to media freedom is therefore needed to take account of a desperate emergency."

He remains adamant that the recent *Tonight* allegations were checked and cross-checked as closely as possible before being broadcast. He strongly rejects suggestions that the programme should not have been shown at a time of increasing IRA violence. "You do not tamper with timing, as you do not tamper with the truth," he said. "But the resolve not to be pressured becomes greater than ever."

Although Mr Francis had the theoretical power to stop the interviews being broadcast, he believes the prospect of the allegations would have had much more damaging consequences.

"When we are under pressure

to do the right thing, we do the right thing."

As well as overseeing the output of BBC Northern Ireland, Mr Francis is personally responsible to the director-general for every BBC programme relating to the province. All plays

## Media heading for new clash on Ulster

From a Staff Reporter  
Belfast

After a spate of serious allegations against members of the security forces, a fresh confrontation is looming between the British media and the Government and Opposition over coverage of the continuing violence in Northern Ireland.

The battle lines were first drawn up at a dinner in a Belfast hotel last November, when the Secretary of State, Mr Mason, launched an angry personal attack against senior BBC executives for aspects of their editorial policy.

Since then a number of incidents have increased the friction. The most notable were the broadcast on the *Tonight* programme of detailed brutality allegations against the Royal Ulster Constabulary and the publication yesterday in *The Sunday Times* of an article saying that the Army in Ulster indulged in a range of "dirty tricks" between 1972 and early 1976.

Mr Mason has requested his officials to telephone journalists with a strongly worded public condemnation of the BBC for its handling of the *Tonight* programme. That move was fol-

lowed on Saturday by Mr Airey Neave's speech accusing the corporation of undermining the propaganda war in Ulster.

A senior civil servant is understood to have rebuked the BBC to try to convince executives that one of the subjects in the *Tonight* interview was a prominent Provisional IRA organizer. It has also been suggested to local journalists that D notices might be used to restrict certain reports considered as helpful to terrorists.

The only official Army comment came in a statement from Lisburn. It said of *The Sunday Times* article: "It is a hotch-potch of old allegations almost all of which have appeared over the years in other Irish and British newspapers. We do not propose to react to them in any detail, now or in the future."

The *Sunday Times* said that between 1972 and last year the Army's campaign against the IRA had led to involvement in a number of "bizarre activities". It emphasized that none covered the period since Mr Mason took over at Stormont last September.

According to the paper's unnamed sources the Army had, among other things, attempted to discredit two Ulster poli-

cicians and influence government policy by issuing false information. It also suggests that troops had set off explosives in border areas to cause confusion about IRA activity and planted ammunition on suspects during questioning.

One reason for the increased sensitivity of the Government to allegations against the security forces is the recent hearing of the case between Ireland and Britain before the European Court of Human Rights.

That demonstrated the damage to Britain's international reputation that can arise from the behaviour of soldiers and policemen in Ulster, and ministers are keenly aware that another session is due to open in Strasbourg next month.

Although Mr Mason has been critical of certain aspects of the media's treatment of Northern Ireland news, he has said in an open letter to the local branch of the National Union of Journalists that he is not in favour of censorship.

A fuller indication of his view is likely to emerge in an hour-long interview to be broadcast on ITV's *People and Politics* programme tonight.

Letters, page 17

## Propaganda war being lost, Tory MP says

By Our Political Reporter

The Government's tentative proposals for direct elections to the European Parliament have reached an advanced stage and it is expected that further Cabinet discussions on the planned consultative White Paper will be held shortly.

While the White Paper will contain a number of options, which will be discussed in Parliament before a final Cabinet decision is taken, it would appear that a system of proportional representation is not a strong runner.

Although proposals for PR are expected to be discussed, many ministers do not like the idea, not least because it would create a future in some sections of the party.

Heavy concentration of resources on the security situation in Northern Ireland with studied grandiloquence and distinc-

tions and indifference to the rest of the world is a major failing of the Government.

Mr Neave referred to a lecture by Mr Richard Francis, BBC controller in Northern Ireland, who spoke of the duty of the media of "impartially reflecting significant forces in society, of whatever origin, as much as supporting democratic institutions" but not wholly accepted it.

This, Mr Neave said, purported to be a guideline for a broadcasting authority in a part of the United Kingdom on the brink of civil war where the Government was fighting a ruthless group of terrorists.

On March 2, the BBC *Tonight* programme interviewed two men who alleged brutality by the Royal Ulster Constabulary during interrogation after which no charges were made against them.

Mr Neave added: "This *Tonight* programme illustrates the most damaging effects on morale in the RUC. In justifying it on grounds of 'impartiality', the BBC have given the impression that they are not really on the side of the civil power in Northern Ireland. In elevating themselves above the struggles and duties of lesser mortals, they have lost sight of their responsibilities in Northern Ireland."

Rising homelessness cannot be attributed to a high level of new arrivals in London, the report says. Department of Environment statistics show that 95 per cent of homeless families accepted by the London

## 'MPs only' proposal for Europe elections

By Michael Hatfield

Political Reporter

The Government's tentative

proposals for direct elections

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will be held shortly.

The proposition, it is believed, has found some degree

of favour among prominent

anti-EEC Cabinet ministers such

as Mr Foot, Leader of the Com-

munity, Mr Shore, Secretary of

State for the Environment, and

Mr Silkin, Minister of Agricul-

ture, Fisheries and Food.

To avoid a bewildering sur-

feit of elections, for local

councils, Scottish and Welsh

assemblies, Westminster and the

European Parliament, it is

suggested that under the "dual

mandate" system, the European

elections could be held at the

same time as those for West-

minster.

But the European Parliament

has a fixed four-year term,

whereas the Westminster elec-

tions can be held at any time

during a five-year period. There

are, of course, other objections,

including opposition to MPs

holding two parliamentary jobs.

At its last conference the

FDA reaffirmed the willingness

of its 10,000 members to de-

velop closer links with other

associations but made it clear

that an essential precondition

of any discussions was the reten-

tion of a "separate and dis-

tinct" voice by the top

grades it represents.

A possible stumbling block

could be that, while the insi-

tution is affiliated to the TUC,

the FDA is not, although there

is a growing mood in favour of

such a move.

## Move to form one union for top civil servants

By Tim Jones

Labour Reporter

One powerful union to repre-

sents the views of top civil ser-

vants may emerge as a result

of discussions that are to take

place between the Institute of

Professional Civil Servants

and the Association of First

Division Civil Servants (FDS).

Mr William McCall, general

secretary of the 100,000-strong

institute, believes there are

insuperable differences. His

proposals would ensure that if

there was an amalgamation,

the FDS would have executive

over their own affairs.

Mr McCall suggests that dur-

ing a transitional period, which

could be three years, the FDS

and the AID would have

reserved seats on the amal-

gated union's national execu-

tive committee.

The National Health Service

is failing to renew its build-

ings adequately, according to its

works officers, who maintain

the fabric of Britain's hospitals

In their submission to the Royal Commission on the NHS they say that £210m is needed

to replace equipment operating

well past its estimated lifetime.

The figure is much higher for

buildings, as considerably more

than half the country's hospi-

tals were built before 1914.

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Reporter

powerful union to repre-

views top civil

officers that are to a

re-emerge as a re-

sponsible Civil Ser-

Civil Servants (FDS)

William McCall, gen-

eral manager of the

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mitment.

Both Mr Foot, Leader of the

Commons, and Mr Millan, Sec-

retary of State for Scotland,

referred to the Bill as if it were

only in a coma and not dead.

"We have not abandoned the

Bill," Mr Millan said on Sun-

day. But he admitted that it

would be hard to get it on to

the statute book.

Mr William Ross, MP for

Kilmarnock, former Scottish

Secretary and formerly an

opponent of devolution, argued

strongly for loyalty at the con-

ference. One senior English

minister maintains that Scottish

nationalism will simply fade

away.

The Government still has at

least three options to try to

get the Bill through. None of

them is regarded as promising.

It could continue debate on

the Bill even without the

guillotine which was rejected

recently, either by extending

the present session or carrying

the Bill over to the next one.

But hundreds of amendments

have been tabled and the Bill's

opponents are determined

to defeat it.

Even if the House agreed, it

would still take an extremely

long time. MPs might not

attend in sufficient numbers

for any progress to be made.

The Government could accept

the Scottish conference's

recommendations on the Bill.

That would leave the debris

of devolution to be cleared up.

Civil servants at the Cabinet

Office, devolution unit are

already returning to their own

departments.

A decision will have to be

made whether to conclude work

## HOME NEWS

## Scottish conference fails to ease Labour Party pessimism over fate of the devolution Bill

From David Leigh

Political Staff

Perth

Labor's pessimism about the fate of the devolution Bill has not lessened after the relatively quiet way in which the situation was accepted at the party's Scottish conference, which ended in Perth yesterday.

There would be confusion about framing the question, and no guarantee that the Commons would assent, ministers say.

If there was a question about

separatism to deter the Scottish National Party, the English would want a voice. If the referendum was confined to devolution as such, some Scottish MPs have said they are not enthusiastic enough to campaign for it.

The third possibility is for

the Government to gain cross-party support for a guillotine, which is the official purpose behind secret talks to be continued this week with Tory and Labour MPs.

Ministers and MPs are privately reconciled to the probability that they will have to go into the Scottish local elections in May and the next general election with nothing to offer except a repeated commitment.

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Mr James Sillars, MP for

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hand, who broke away from the

Labour Party with Mr John

Robertson, MP for Paisley, to

found the rebel Scottish

Labour Party, faces the politi-

cal wilderness.

His whole strategy depended

on an assembly being set up at

Edinburgh. Now, cut off from

his former comrades, and with

no political base in view for his

small party, he faces possible

defeat in his constituency at

the next general election.

Mr William Ross, MP for

Kilmarnock, former Scottish

Secretary and formerly an

opponent of devolution, argued

strongly for loyalty at the con-

ference. One senior English

minister maintains that Scottish

nationalism will simply fade

away.

The Government still has at

least three options to try to

get the Bill through. None of

them is regarded as promising.

It could continue debate on

the Bill even without the

guillotine which was rejected

recently, either by extending

the present session or carrying

the Bill over to the next one.

But hundreds of amendments

have been tabled and the Bill's

opponents are determined

to defeat it.

Even if the House agreed, it

would still take an extremely

long time. MPs might not

attend in sufficient numbers

for any progress to be made.

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## HOME NEWS

## Revival of N and F level examinations plan may be kiss of life for minority subjects

By Tim Devlin

Education Correspondent

Thousands of copies of proposed syllabuses for a new national set of examinations to replace the A-level General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCE) will be sent to schools and businesses in the autumn by the Schools Council, the Government-sponsored body that advises on the curriculum.

An old plan to broaden sixth-form studies with a five-subject examination system (instead of three) has been taken on a new lease of life. It suggested N (Normal) and F (Further) levels, which were rejected by the council in 1971, are no longer the dead ducks that many schools believed them to be.

The results of an exercise involving the new examination in 15 schools will be published by the council early next year, and a full report will be given by the council's joint examinations subcommittee. The plan can then be the subject of a general debate before the full council decides in 1979 whether to endorse it and submit it to the Government. If approved, it could be operating by 1984, and A-levels would be abolished in that year.

The plan was dropped by the council in 1971 after it had been rejected by most educational establishments, particularly the universities, which

believed that it would lower standards. Its revival is likely to cause as much controversy as the council's recent proposals to merge GCE O-level and the Certificate of Secondary Education (CSE) examinations, now being investigated by a Government committee.

As reported in *The Times* on Saturday, Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, called for "a radical re-think" of the traditional concentration on A-level subjects at the sixth form. She said at a meeting of the Association of Assistant Mistresses on Friday that too early specialization was bad for a trading nation and she complained that many pupils were dropping mathematics and foreign languages too soon. The advocates of the N and F plan are hoping, therefore, for their support.

Under the plan, pupils, after taking their 16-plus examination (O-level or CSE), would be required at 18-plus to pass three subjects at N level and two at F level if they wished to proceed to higher education. Taking mathematics would increase by about half, and twice as many girls would take the subject. The numbers taking geography would double, and those taking Latin would nearly treble.

Professor Jack Allanson, of Birmingham University, a member of the subcommittee, told the meeting that the evidence showed that N and F

would be sent to schools and companies, probably in the early autumn.

The council expects to publish in January a 256-page report by its joint examinations subcommittee on the resource implications of its plan. The report now needs compilation. It finds that the new examination system would not require more teachers, if schools with fewer than 150 pupils in the sixth form were prepared to teach N and F level pupils in the same classes.

The subcommittee's report is based on a survey in which 2,802 sixth-formers in 19 schools and students in five colleges of further education were asked to pretend that the plan was in operation and to choose their subjects. The schools were then asked to draw up timetables.

Preliminary findings indicate that considerably more pupils would study subjects at N and F levels than are present at A-level courses. The numbers taking mathematics would increase by about half, and twice as many girls would take the subject. The numbers taking geography would double, and those taking Latin would nearly treble.

Professor Jack Allanson, of Birmingham University, a member of the subcommittee, told the meeting that the evidence showed that N and F

would give the kiss of life to minority subjects that were in danger of dying out in many schools.

He said that most sixth-formers had chosen six subjects of subjects in the same or different areas. That means that some of the schools would have had to put subjects on the sixth-form timetable for the first time.

He said that many sixth-formers chose Latin, Greek, Spanish, Italian, Russian and German, which they were not going to study under the A-level system.

Professor Allanson thought that the N and F plan might end the bias in the English education system against brighter pupils doing technology and design subjects in the sixth form.

The existence of the list was first revealed more than three years ago by Sir Robert Mark, when, as Commissioner, he delivered the Dimbleby Lecture on BBC Television. He said:

"The kind of behaviour I have in mind is often seen, but almost impossible to prove. We see the same lawyers defending at one going to prison and defending for different clients. Prosecution witnesses suddenly and inexplicably change their minds."

Defences are concocted, far beyond the minimum capacity of the accused. False alibis are put forward. Extraneous issues damaging to police credibility are introduced.

All these are part of the stock-in-trade of a small minority of criminal lawyers. The result is that some trials of deliberate crimes for profit—robbery, burglary and so on—involve a sordid, bitter struggle of wits and tactics between the detective and the lawyers.

Public accusations of misconduct, however, have always been one-sided, with the result that the doubts about the criminal trial now centre upon police conduct as if the police alone had a motive for impeding justice.

Let there be no doubt that a minority of criminal lawyers do very well from the proceeds of crime. A reputation for success, achieved by persistent lack of scruples in the defence of the most despicable, soon attracts other clients who see little hope of acquittal in any other way.

Experienced and respected Metropolitan detectives can identify lawyers in criminal practice who are more harmful to society than the client they represent.

A copy of the *Hanoverian*, marked "highly confidential" and containing the names of barristers, solicitors and legal office staff, has been handed to the Law Society by *The Sunday Times*. It is unlikely that the disciplinary committee will be able to take action against those named.

An official observed: "If the police, with all their resources, cannot make the allegation stick, there is little chance that we shall be able to."

## Law Society to study black list of lawyers

By Clive Barrall  
Crime Correspondent

The disciplinary committee of the Law Society is to examine a Metropolitan Police black list containing the names of 30 lawyers who specialize in defending professional criminals.

The existence of the list was first revealed more than three years ago by Sir Robert Mark, when, as Commissioner, he delivered the Dimbleby Lecture on BBC Television. He said:

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### Kidney appeal

From today learner drivers applying for licences will receive a card authorizing the use of their kidneys for transplants in the event of their death, whether in a road accident or not.

Most farms will be owned by farmers, despite the entry of financial institutions to the market. But the value of the land held by some of those farmers may be affected by institutional activity.

Less than a fifth of British farmland changes hands through sales each year. Last year almost a quarter of the small proportion sold in England and Wales was bought, and in a few cases sold,

by financial institutions.

That is where the fiscal advantage of the institutional buyer, now being investigated by the National Farmers' Union, assumes an important role.

Most farms will be owned by farmers, despite the entry of financial institutions to the market. But the value of the land held by some of those farmers may be affected by institutional activity.

It is hoped that many drivers will sign the cards, thus increasing the supply of kidneys, which are urgently needed.

## Attack on 'arbitrary' Treasury cash limits

By Peter Hennessy

Mr Edward du Cann, Conservative MP for Tantivy and chairman of the powerful Public Accounts Committee, will attack the Treasury's system of cash limits later this month on the ground that they undermine parliamentary control of public expenditure.

His criticisms will appear in a pamphlet prepared for the Conservative Political Centre. They could be reflected in a report on the workings of cash limits during their first year in operation to be published by the Public Accounts Committee in the next few weeks, after a special investigation by Sir Douglas Henley, the Comptroller and Auditor General.

Cash limits are now applied to three-quarters of central government spending. With the new machinery for monitoring monthly cash flows known as Whitehall, the financial information system cash limits are the critical weapon in the Treasury's attempt to reassess control over public expenditure after the setbacks of 1971-74.

In an interview with *The Times* last week Mr du Cann said: "Cash limits are set arbitrarily by Treasury ministers. They have never been the subject of parliamentary discussion or decision and are a further weakening of parliamentary control."

He also expressed disquiet with the form and content of

the White Papers on public expenditure published by the Treasury in recent weeks. They represented an abandonment of the principles set out in the Plowden report of 1961.

The Treasury had never fulfilled the Plowden recommendation that a continuous evaluation of the division of resources between the public and private sectors should be made. Now the system of five-year forward projections of spending had been discontinued, adversely affecting the quality of information on which MPs could base their judgments.

Mr du Cann has corresponded with the Prime Minister in an attempt to improve Parliament's watchdog powers through a merger of the Public Accounts and Expenditure committees.

Mr du Cann welcomed a suggestion by Sir Derek Rayner, joint managing director of Marks and Spencer and former chief executive of the Ministry of Defence procurement executive, in his evidence before the Expenditure Committee, that the whole tone of Whitehall could be changed if the Public Accounts Committee praised examples of efficient management as well as criticizing failures.

## Human right convention 'unsuitable' for UK

By Our Legal Correspondent

The European Convention on Human Rights is entirely unsuitable for incorporation into British law, the Law Society's law reform committee says in a memorandum published today.

Making the convention part of national law would prevent the outcome of the debate on the need for fundamental constitutional change, by shifting the centre of gravity of the constitution away from Parliament towards the judiciary.

The memorandum says that by concentrating on the desirability of introducing legislation on the lines of the European convention, last year's consultative document on a Bill of Rights had avoided determining what changes were needed in Britain's fundamental constitutional structure and particularly the relationship between Parliament, the executive and the judiciary.

"We now find ourselves debating a proposal to enact into domestic law a series of directly enforceable human rights, formulated in the vaguest and most general terms and subject to almost equally vague qualifications," the committee comments.

"Such a proposal is so totally at variance with traditional methods of law-making in this country that it seems to us to make no sense except as part of a proposal for a complete overhaul of our fundamental constitutional arrangements."

## Sir Robert says 'bail jumpers' live off crime

One of the last documents to be signed by Sir Robert Mark before he retired as Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police at the weekend was a memorandum to the Home Office pointing out the high incidence of crime committed by bail jumpers.

A building was found in north London and the area health authority promised £68,000 for medical costs, the Department of Health promised £15,000 for research work and private trusts gave £10,000 for capital costs.

The project should have opened last year but the London Boroughs' Association had not decided on its contribution. The project had asked for £123,000 over three years towards community and social work.

It is aimed to help the group of addicts described by *The Times* in an investigation of the area around Piccadilly last month. Hundreds of addicts are trapped in a cycle of drug abuse and overdosing without respite and a number have died on the streets.

Since then, the standing conference claims, the association has become a stumbling block in the opening of the project and delays have cost more than £2,000 in rent and rates even before the unit opens.

In its budget for next year the association had more than £100,000 intended for work researched before being brought in."

## City buyers arouse farmers' suspicions

A new figure has moved to the front line in farmers' demography. He progresses slowly through the countryside in a purring limousine. From time to time he stops and tests the soil, and when he has sampled the landscape, then uses the end of a rolled umbrella to tap the driver into renewed motion.

Some farmers are more worried about purchases of estates by foreign buyers or City finance houses than they are about the nationalization of farmland. The latter has been adopted in the policy of the Labour Party and the National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers but rejected by Mr Silkin, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Finance houses, insurance companies and pension funds which buy agricultural land arousing suspicion in farmers for four reasons. First, they appear to have plenty of ready cash. Secondly, they do not die and therefore escape the burden of capital transfer tax which overtakes the descendants of farscaped mortal family farmers.

Thirdly, they want the best land and have the resources with which to buy it. That erodes the vision of practising farmers being forced off the lush lowlands into the hills. Fourthly, the financial institutions are targets for subversion in the agricultural com-

EEC, Suffolk, Norfolk, Leicestershire and Lincolnshire taken together.

Many farmers are confused about the position of financial institutions as owners of British farmland. The answer seems to think in almost Orwellian terms: "Family owners good, institutional owners bad."

Yet most land that belongs to institutions now has been owned by them for years or more. The figure of 9 per cent of farmland in England and Wales is used widely as a measure of institutional ownership. But that figure, which was not used much until the Country Landowners' Association quoted it in a discussion paper, applies to all institutions.

Land attracts institutions for many of the reasons that make it look desirable, to foreign buyers. The price of what is produced on the land is rising rapidly, driven by the operation of EEC farm policy. The Government favours expansion of food output at home and estates in Britain are considered to be in less danger of bombing, armed attack or seizure by the state than elsewhere.

Moreover, the Government has shown by deferring wealth tax and diluting the effect of capital transfer tax that it will accept at least part of the case for the private landowner against the financial institutions.

The penetration of corporate institutions is greater in the arable counties of the eastern half of England than in Wales or the rest of England. Their holdings may amount to as much as a twentieth of the total farmland area of

The unit would take up to 15 addicts at a time for three weeks. In that time their needs could then be assessed and they could then be passed over to regular medical and social services in London.

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## ONE EMOTIONAL REASON FOR BUYING THE NEW VOLVO 264 GLE.



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## HOME NEWS

**No Government plans for extensive rail cuts, Mr Rodgers says**

By Robert Parker

Reports that the Government has decided to introduce extensive cuts and make British Rail pay its way by 1980 were described yesterday by Mr Rodgers, Secretary of State for Transport, as "mischievous and misleading".

In speculation on the contents of the White Paper on transport, expected by the end of May, it has been suggested that British Rail faces big cuts in services, widespread redundancies and huge fare increases, especially for commuters in the South-east.

The reports said that more than 2,500 miles of rail track might go and that there was no prospect of moving heavy freight from road to rail.

Mr Rodgers has gone on record as saying he would never "do another Beeching", and he has drawn attention to his actions as Secretary of State, such as the electrification of the Bedford-St Pancras line, to support that claim.

There is as yet no draft of the White Paper. When it appears it will be the outcome of considerable consultation which began formally with the late Mr Crossland and then for a short time under the direction of Mr Shore as Secretary of State for the Environment.

Since transport has been separated from environment, Mr Rodgers has been in charge of reviewing policy. His attitude has been to set the framework for the discussions, that is, to drive home the shortage of money. His role may be likened to that of a referee in a competition among different groups for a share of limited resources.

So it is likely that the White

Paper will contain no startling new investment plans and much trimming of some expenditure. It seems unlikely that there will be any very large cuts of the sort suggested in the speculation.

Mr Rodgers is known to favour delegating more control to local people in the control of transport, and he believes that transport policy should take the individual's needs as the starting point. The two factors, together with a shortage of money, are likely to be the main influences on the White Paper.

It is also thought possible that the difficulty of non-car-owners will receive a good deal of attention.

The suggestion that British Rail would have to become self-sufficient by 1981 was being denied yesterday. The proposed level of passenger subsidy would not be markedly different from present levels.

There is a feeling among ministers that the skillfully organized campaign is being mounted by various trade unions, British Rail and other pressure groups to discredit the Government's attempts to formulate a transport policy.

A spokesman said yesterday that the speculation that huge rail cuts were on the way was a result of the campaign.

An attack on the assumption that there should be continuing political direction for transport is made today by the Selston Group, the Conservative pressure group. Dr Anthony Henfrey and Mr Ian Gow, Conservative MP for Eastbourne, say: "Competition and the market should provide Britain's transport services, not politicians."

**Hardship alleged over plan to halt fuel disconnections**

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Government schemes to prevent fuel disconnections in the homes of poor families are resulting in severe hardship, Mr George Rodgers, Labour MP for Chorley, plans to tell the Commons today during an adjournment debate.

One of the cases he will cite will be that of a lone mother in Manchester who is having to keep herself and her five children on £23 a week because

much larger sums are being deducted. He blames the local fuel boards' interpretation of the code of practice on disconnections.

The code says no one will be disconnected if they arrange to pay off arrears on an electricity bill and to cover current consumption, so

that the mother does not fall behind with fuel bills.

The deduction is aimed at preventing poor families from losing their fuel supply when they could not meet bills.

It is supposed to be a maximum of 50p a week, plus a sum towards current consumption and it is intended that debts should be paid off over two years.

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The Rev David Pitcher, Rector of Framlingham, standing by the Earl of Surrey's family tomb.

**Howards to remember 'family star'**

Continued from page 1

royal arms on his shield, and advising his sister to become the queen's mistress. His sister Mary supplied evidence for the indictment of her brother, and was his most bitter accuser.

Those acts of which he was charged were interpreted as an attempt to endanger Prince Edward's succession to the throne. In fact, his real offence was that he was a Howard and supported his ambitious father at a time when the Seymours were temporarily winning the power struggle to provide the "Protector" of the infant Prince Edward.

If Henry Howard's political career was nasty, brusque, and short, his literary achievements in sonnets and miscellaneous

poetry in various metres notable for their grace and finish were considerable.

He shared with Wyatt the merit of introducing the sonnet from Italy into England. On his own he had the perhaps even greater merit of introducing the use of blank verse into English in his translation of the *Aeneid*.

His contemporaries esteemed him more highly even than Wyatt, as their most brilliant and polished poet.

At the service on July 9 religious differences that have lasted since the Reformation will be forgotten; Tudor injustices will be forgiven; and gratitude will be expressed for the short life and large contribution to literature of one of the most brilliant members of the Howard family, the father of the English sonnet.

The Duke of Norfolk said yesterday: "He was one of the stars of the family, a sublime poet who suffered unjustly. It seems appropriate to have a reunion of all the Howards to remember him, to celebrate his gifts, to bury his suffering, and to rehallow his tomb."

Mr Leslie Edwards, aged 27, an unemployed painter, of Henllan, Clwyd, his wife, Sharon, aged 25, and their daughter, Catherine, aged three, died in their blazing council house yesterday. A son, Darren, aged two, was dropped to safety from a bedroom window.

A boy aged five and his sister, aged two, died with their mother and a teenage aunt in a fire in East Belfast yesterday.

The committee of the Institute of Historical Research has appointed Mr C. R. Elrington, MA, to be editor of the *Victoria History of the County of Kent*.

Mr Elrington, of the University of London, has been appointed to the chair of historical research in Kent.

Mr Elrington succeeds Dr G. W. Keeney.

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Dr G. W. Keeney,

## WEST EUROPE

## Battles on streets of Rome bring night of terror to capital in Italy's worst disorders since war

From Patricia Clough  
Rome, March 13

The Italian Government today banned all public demonstrations in Rome after a weekend of violence and destruction. Last night the streets of the city were virtually deserted. People were afraid to go outside, only emerging from their homes to stand huddled in doorways.

According to the latest official figures, 14 policemen were injured, one critically, and 18 demonstrators were arrested and 100 detained. The violence also erupted in Bologna and to a lesser extent in Milan and Turin.

For seven hours Rome was in the grip of full-scale urban warfare. Two gun shops were ransacked for firearms; innumerable shops, cafés and hotels were damaged and hundreds of cars and many buses were smashed up, overturned or burnt. The offices and newspaper of the ruling Christian Democrat Party were attacked with petrol bombs.

As calm returned after midnight, carloads of guerrillas were reported to be leaving the city at high speed, firing at police manning roadblocks.

The battle had started as a peaceful demonstration by 50,000 students from all over Italy to protest against youth unemployment and plans by the Government and the Communist Party for the long-promised university reforms.

But in the preceding days events had combined to whip up

tension. A left-wing student, Fabrizio Panzeri, had been jailed for more than three years on highly controversial grounds for his moral complicity in the beating up of a Greek student during a demonstration, and at Bologna another student was shot dead, allegedly by carabinieri, during disturbances at the university.

As a result the demonstration soon deteriorated into what police and journalists agreed was probably the most violent and vicious disorders seen in Italy since the war. While the majority maintained good order, groups of extremists broke away to roam the city spreading fear and destruction.

Signor Francesco Cossiga, the Interior Minister, described their actions as a "prearranged and criminal plan of guerrilla warfare". And the youths certainly gave it a name—revolution. They moved deliberately and without direction, calmly doing as much damage as possible, acting in small groups, appearing and disappearing in the maze of narrow streets, difficult to follow and catch.

The sense of hopelessness and frustration has turned the universities, particularly that of Rome, into hotbeds of a new extremism. Unlike the university revolt of 1968 there are no political ideals: the Communists are hated as much as the Christian Democrats. The rebels reject politics, the institutions, democracy, the very society from which they feel outcasts.

At the Rome police headquarters tension was running so high that the police chief ordered captured demonstrators to be taken to local police stations for questioning, as he could not

guarantee their physical safety at headquarters.

Even more alarming were reports that groups of plainclothes policemen were savagely beating up students heading for home, while uniformed colleagues turned a blind eye.

The Communist Party organ *L'Unità* today branded the disorders as a vast manoeuvre aimed at undermining democracy in Italy. The *Corriere della Sera* said there was a "presumption of endemic civil war". *La Stampa* of Turin urged the Government to stamp out the violence "while there is still time".

At the root of the trouble is the mass unemployment among school-leavers and college-leavers. Sociologists have been saying for some months that the situation was likely to explode violently at any moment.

The numbers of unemployed youths are impossible to ascertain when the Labour Ministry's unemployment figure—1,350,000—is almost double that of the Statistics Office. Estimates range from half a million to three million young people alone.

The church occupied by traditionalists, the Roman Catholics of St Nicholas du Chardonnet, on Paris's Left Bank, today attended a modern Mass in the presbytery which is still in their control. Next door, in the seventeenth-century church, more than 2,000 followers of Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre gave themselves to a day of devotion.

As they mingled on the Boulevard Saint Germain, before



President Giscard d'Estaing arrives with his wife and father to vote at Chanonat, central France, in the local elections

## Rival Masses in Saint Germain

From Our Own Correspondent  
Paris, March 13

Masses, the traditionalists and the churchless parishioners filing into their respective Masses, the traditionalists and the churchless parishioners fought their verbal battles. You have turned us into refugees from the church which has been our home since birth" exclaimed a man in his seventies between the fervent followers of Archbishop Lefebvre and the uneasy stalemate prevails.

Last week one of the traditionalist leaders gave a warning, however, that any attempt to evict them would result in the occupation of the Notre Dame Cathedral.

## 4,000 seize stadium in Basque protest

From Harry Dobellus  
Madrid, March 13

A policeman was shot dead in an ambush near Vitoria today as turmoil continued in the Basque country. In San Sebastian, 4,000 demonstrators took over a sports stadium during an international competition.

The policeman, Señor Constantino Gómez Barcia, was killed when two men opened fire with shotguns on a car in which he and three other officials, members of the civil guard and the fiancé of one of them, were returning from a dance to their barracks at Mondragón about 3 am.

The attackers, who appeared to have been waiting for the policeman, stepped out from another vehicle and blasted away at the police, who had stopped at a traffic sign. Apart from Señor Gómez two policemen were injured, one seriously.

When the gunman's car was found later, its owner was discovered to be locked inside the boot. He told police he was forced into the boot about six hours before the shooting.

The killers are believed to be members of the ETA (Basque Homeland and Liberty), taking revenge for the shooting of two ETA men by the civil guard at a roadblock near San Sebastian last Tuesday.

Shortly before noon today, about 4,000 spectators at the eighth indoor European athletics championship meeting took over the Anoeta arena in San Sebastian in support of a demand for a total amnesty.

Athletes from 25 countries

taking part watched as the crowd surged on to the track, shouting slogans in Basque. These were translated into all the major European languages and broadcast over the loudspeakers.

The police, who were outnumbered, agreed to withdraw and not make any arrests. Then the crowd poured out of the arena, leaving the athletes to continue with virtually no audience. The demonstrators marched through the streets of San Sebastian, where they were joined by thousands of others.

The demonstration, like several others in the Basque country over the weekend, made it clear that the expansion of the royal amnesty announced by the Government last weekend, in conjunction with a broad but restricted pardon, was not enough for the Basques, who have consistently called for total and immediate freedom for political prisoners.

In Madrid, about 200 people, including relatives of some Basque prisoners, staged a hunger strike in a church in the working-class suburb of Moratalaz in favour of an amnesty. Police broke up another demonstration by several hundred people in front of the women's prison here this morning.

In another significant political development, Señor José María Gil Robles, a former minister of the Spanish Republican Government, resigned yesterday as president of the Popular Democratic Federation in order to facilitate a coalition of Christian Democratic parties.

British winners, page 11

## Portugal wins backing for 1981 EEC membership

From Michael Hornsby  
Brussels, March 13

Portugal will receive the full support of the European Commission in seeking membership of the EEC at the earliest possible date. This emerged in Brussels yesterday from discussions in Jenkins between Mr Roy Jenkins, the president of the Commission, and Dr Mario Soares, the Portuguese Prime Minister.

Dr Soares's visit to Brussels was the last stop on a two-stage tour of European capitals which is to be followed at the end of March by the lodging of a formal application for EEC membership. As a member of Efta, the European Free Trade Association, Portugal is already linked to the Community by a free trade agreement.

Speaking at a press conference yesterday, Dr Soares said that he expected the Commission to hand down its constitutionally required opinion on the Portuguese application by January of next year at the latest. This could be followed a few months later by the opening of entry negotiations with the EEC's Council of Ministers.

The negotiations might take two to three years, Dr Soares reckoned, enabling Portugal to join the Community around 1980-81. A five-year transitional period would then be necessary for industry and trade, and a little longer for agricultural goods, so that Portugal could expect to be fully integrated by about 1987.

Commission officials indicated that they had no serious quarrel with this timetable, while acknowledging that in the final analysis it would be the attitude of the nine existing EEC members, acting through the Council of Ministers, which would determine how quickly Portugal joined the Community.

The warmth of Dr Soares's reception in Brussels was evidently intended to dispel suggestions that Mr Jenkins and his colleagues were unenthusiastic about the prospect of Portuguese membership, an impression which gained currency after Mr Jenkins's recent visit to Paris.

The French have recently suggested that the entry negotiations already opened with Greece and the applications expected in a few weeks from Portugal and, possibly later in the year, from Spain should be treated together, with uniform criteria being applied.

The idea behind this suggestion seems to be to give the EEC more time to examine the economic implications of further enlargement of the Community and also to look at the probable consequences for the working of existing EEC institutions.

While claiming to be unaware of this French view, Dr Soares made it clear that he would be against any "globalization" of entry negotiations. Each applicant country, he argued, had "a right to see its case treated separately" because each had its own special economic conditions and was moving towards democracy at its own pace.

He did not underestimate the economic obstacles in the way of Portugal's integration, and he accepted that a vast recovery programme would have to be carried out with the cooperation of the Community and in parallel with negotiations.

Mr Sherriff writes from Lisbon: In the absence of Dr Soares, Portugal has been swept by yet another wave of industrial unrest and political instability while the cost of living continues to rise.

Strikes have affected the textile industry, the steel mills, travel agencies, and glass factories and a number of small firms.

## Family's expulsion stopped by Queen Juliana

From Our Correspondent  
The Hague, March 13

and 14, have been attending Dutch schools.

This expulsion was ordered after a final appeal for a resident's permit was rejected by the Council of State. Schoolmarm of the Thung children and a Protestant minister who has been trying to help the family to settle in Holland, petitioned Queen Juliana.

The Queen, who is at present on holiday in Austria, has declined to sign the expulsion order and has asked for further information on the Thung family.

The Ministry of Justice says that proceedings have been suspended until "the opinion of the Crown has been established".

## Swiss vote against sending foreign workers home

From Our Correspondent  
Geneva, March 12

growth is almost static. At least 250,000 foreigners would have to leave the country if the proposal had gone through.

Voters in the predominantly right-wing canton of Ticino rejected a proposal by National Action, another small right-wing party, to limit naturalizations to 4,000 annually, under half the present rate.

A second proposal by the same group for holding a referendum—with retroactive effect—against the proposal, put forward by the right-wing Republican Movement, was more than two to one.

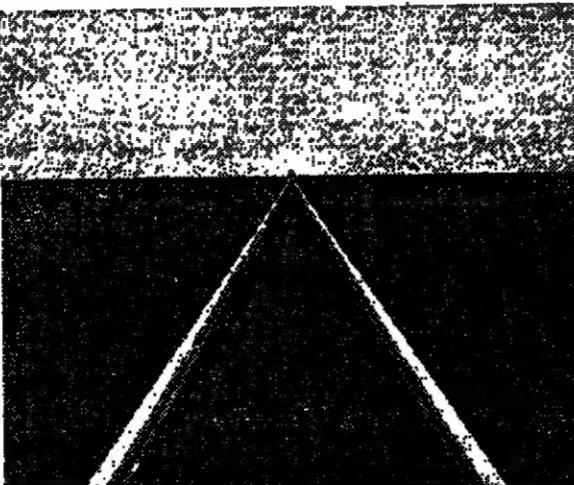
The Republicans, headed by Mr James Schwarzenbach, had campaigned for a constitutional amendment under which the number of foreigners would have been brought down to one-eighth of the total of Swiss nationals over the next decade. At present there are about 950,000 foreigners working in the country.

Switzerland has a population of 5,200,000 and the population

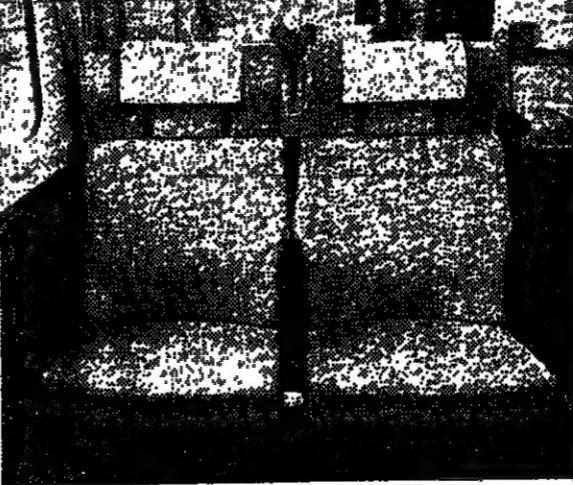
# Look what you gain when you travel by train



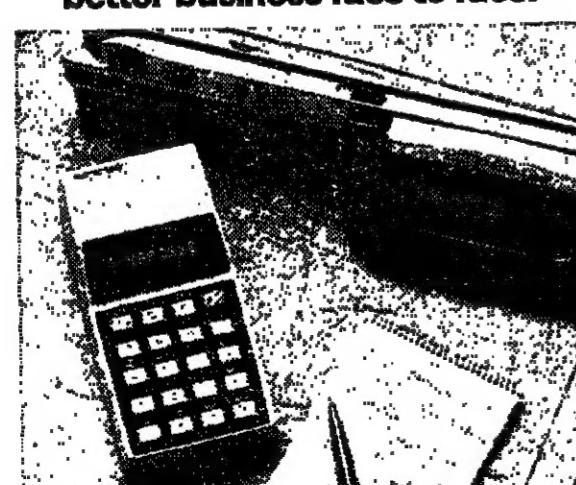
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Greater comfort.



The opportunity to work while you travel.



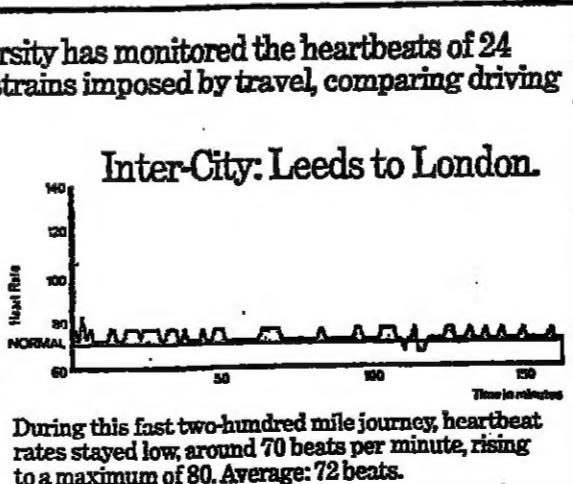
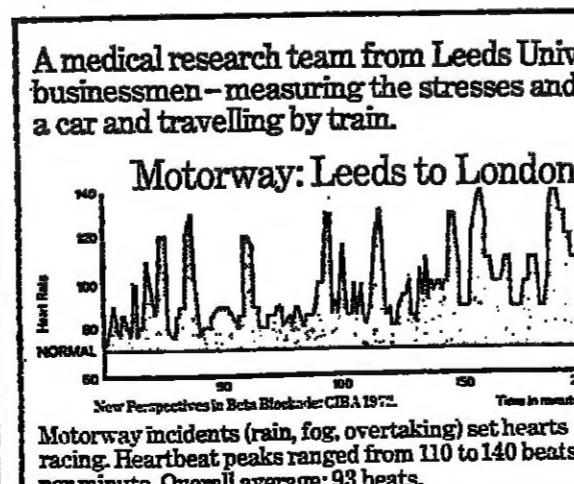
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A car at the other end (at over 60 stations).

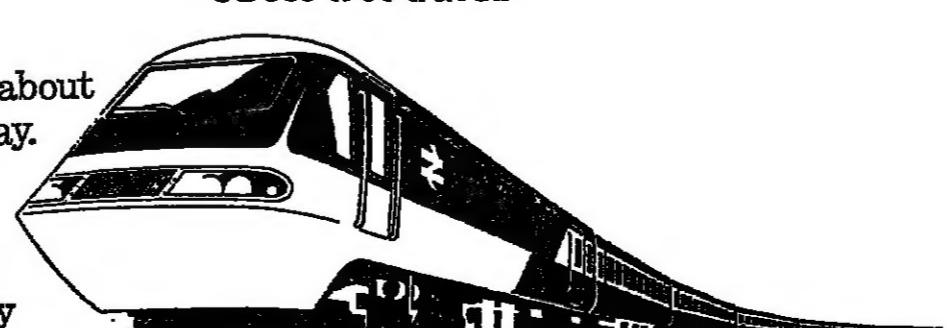


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## OVERSEAS

## 319 million electors will decide who is to govern India

From Richard Wigg

Delhi, March 13

When polling begins on Wednesday in India's general election, it will, according to Delhi officials, be the biggest democratic electoral exercise the world has seen. A total of 319 million voters, aged 21 or over, will be entitled to choose from a ruling party, an opposition, regional groupings, and a host of independent candidates.

It is such a huge exercise that voting will be spread over four days, though no area will poll on more than one day.

Mr P. L. Jacob, the deputy chief election commissioner, has been supervising the detailed preparations from the capital, while the chief commissioner is making a final inspection of arrangements in the 22 states of the union.

Mr Jacob predicted at least 60 per cent of the electorate would vote compared with only 55 per cent at India's last general election in 1971. But he declined to speculate on how this may affect the result, though observers here believe a low poll would favour the ruling Congress Party.

Forty-four million people will be eligible to vote for the first time. There will be about 1,200,000 ballot boxes at 37,400 polling stations and two million officials, not counting the police, will be on duty.

Helicopters will take ballot papers to remote parts, ponies will also be used, and in two states, Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh, the poll can only be held in certain constituencies in late May or early June after the snows have melted.

Each station will be equipped with indelible ink (to mark the voter's finger), sealing wax, and lanterns (if the electric light should fail).

Mr Jacob said the electoral rolls, which took 300,000 officials nine months to prepare,

were ready last August. "We had been preparing for a general elections for the past two years," he added.

Mr Jacob showed me one of the numbered microprinted papers with a secret seal that will be locked into each ballot box after it has been signed by the agents of each candidate.

If the ballot box is tampered with, the secret seal

would be broken.

The election commission maintains that the seals make it impossible to interfere with the boxes. But opposition candidates have said this is not the only way to influence the election unfairly. They have expressed fears about intimidation of voters in some states and point out that presiding officers are often minor government employees.

The count will not begin until March 20. In the meantime the ballot boxes will be taken to storage places, usually schools, and agents will be given the serial numbers of used and unused ballot papers.

Tonight, opposition leaders, including Morarji Desai, Mufti Mahmud, Air Marshal Asghar Khan and Professor Ghafur Ahmed, said the Prime Minister's offer to hold talks was unacceptable. They have demanded the resignations of Mr Bhutto and the election commission and have called for fresh general elections to be held under the protection of the Army.

The Prime Minister, in his speech, described these demands as childish and unacceptable.

## Civil protest to go ahead as Bhutto offer fails

From Hasan Akhtar

Rawalpindi, March 13

Pakistan National Alliance tonight rejected an offer by Mr Bhutto, the Prime Minister, to hold talks on the political crisis caused by allegations that the Government rigged the general election result.

They confirmed their determination to begin a civil disobedience campaign tomorrow.

Mr Bhutto, in a radio and television speech last night, invited the opposition to begin talks. He said that while the National Assembly elections would not be upset, he was prepared to discuss other matters, which it was pre-

sumed could include the question of fresh elections to four provincial assemblies.

The opposition boycotted the provincial assembly elections after winning only 36 of 200 seats in the National Assembly elections on Monday. They said the result was rigged.

Tonight, opposition leaders, including Morarji Desai, Mufti Mahmud, Air Marshal Asghar Khan and Professor Ghafur Ahmed, said the Prime Minister's offer to hold talks was unacceptable. They have demanded the resignations of Mr Bhutto and the election commission and have called for fresh general elections to be held under the protection of the Army.

The Prime Minister, in his speech, described these demands as childish and unacceptable.

## Police harassment was the final blow for Professor Jan Patočka

## Leader of Prague's Charter 77 campaign dies

Prague, March 13.—Professor Jan Patočka, the Czechoslovak philosopher and a leading campaigner for civil and human rights, died today after suffering a cerebral haemorrhage on Friday. He was 69.

He was admitted to hospital in Prague nine days ago, shortly after he had been interrogated for 11 hours.

He had just recovered from a bad bout of influenza and, despite doctors' advice to rest, he continued to act as a spokesman for the Charter 77 human and civil rights group.

Although Professor Patočka said he had been treated correctly during the police interrogation, the long session appeared to have been the

final blow to his health, family sources said. He was also said to have been affected by administrative harassment and constant attacks against him in the government press.

Professor Patočka was frequently questioned by police and summoned to government offices, where he was warned that his Charter 77 activities were contrary to Czechoslovak law.

Earlier this month the Communist Party daily newspaper *Rude Pravo* accused him of defending Nazism in his philosophical works in 1942, and attacked his "reactionary, anti-democratic past".

His final interrogation came after his meeting two days previously with Mr Max van der Stoel, the Dutch Foreign Minister, who was in Prague on an official visit.

[In Holland, Mr van der Stoel said he was saddened by Professor Patočka's death. He described him as a fighter for human rights.]

The police today maintained their pressure on Professor Patočka's fellow campaigners.

Mr Václav Havel, the playwright and a Charter 77 spokesman, who was arrested two months ago, has been remanded in custody for at least another month, his wife said.

It is believed that similar detention orders have been issued against Mr Jiří Lederer, a former journalist, and Mr František Pavlásek and Mr Ota

Orač, both former theatre directors, who were arrested at the same time as Mr Havel.

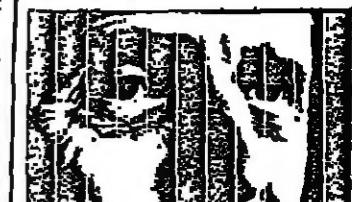
No formal charges have been brought against any of them.

Another spokesman for the group, Dr Jiri Hajek, a former Foreign Minister, is still under virtual house arrest. The police are turning away all foreign visitors to Dr Hajek's small suburban house and Czechoslovak vans are allowed in only after being searched.

The former minister, a "keep fit" enthusiast, has come to an arrangement with the police whereby he can continue his daily jogging sessions along an established course under constant surveillance.

Obituary, page 18

## Prisoners of conscience



### Yugoslavia: Jeno Gordos

By David Ward

The continuing unrest in Yugoslavia, by various groups agitating for independence is reflected in the detention of Mr Jeno Gordos, a chemical-laboratory technician, who was arrested in Subotica, Vojvodina province, in January of last year.

Mr Gordos, who was held for "hostile propaganda", was an active member of Yugoslavia's Hungarian minority in Vojvodina, which was part of the Austro-Hungarian empire.

According to the Hungarian newspaper *Magyar Hirsz*, Mr Gordos was tried last October together with Mr Karoly Vicel, a teacher accused of the same offence.

The charge said Mr Gordos had been in contact with emigres in Munich, Paris and Toronto while he was living in Switzerland and that he possessed propaganda material hostile to Yugoslavia and other socialist countries.

The sentence passed on Mr Gordos is unknown, but he is said to be Subotica where his health is said to be poor.

## Chile bans all parties after plot allegation

## S African journalists may face jail terms

From Nicholas Ashford

Johannesburg, March 13

Editors and other journalists in South Africa will face prison sentences if they refuse to appear before the proposed new press council or decline to answer questions.

These are among the provisions of the controversial new paper which was published yesterday, a day after a White Paper containing its main proposals had been tabled in Parliament. The White Paper had not specified the penalties provided for in the Bill.

Anyone refusing or failing to appear before the council will be liable to six months' imprisonment or a £300 fine, or both, for a first offence. The

fine is raised to £600 for a second offence and to £1,330 and/or one year's imprisonment on a third or subsequent conviction.

Six months' prison sentences and £330 fines can also be imposed for a number of other infringements. These include refusing to answer questions put by the press council, refusing to take an oath or make an affirmation at the request of the council's chairman and insulting or belittling a member of the council.

As the council can demand to know a journalist's source of information, a journalist could be jailed for refusing to name an informant.

The Bill has united the

## Rhodesian troops hunt killers of orphan girl

From Michael Knipe

Salisbury, March 13

Rhodesian troops were hunting today for a gang of African nationalists who shot dead an 11-year-old white orphan girl and her grandmother on Friday evening at a farm 50 miles north-east of Salisbury.

The girl's grandmother collapsed and died of a heart attack soon afterwards while giving the military authorities details of the killing and, in Salisbury, the child's grandmother had a similar heart seizure and died on hearing the news. The tragedy is one of the most shocking to have occurred during Rhodesia's four years of guerrilla conflict.

The girl who died, Sharon McRoberts, lost her parents in a car accident eight years ago. She had been collected from school on Friday afternoon by her grandparents, Mr Henry Hastings, aged 67, and his wife Muriel. The couple's son, Mr David Hastings, who lives at the adjoining farm, said today that the police had told him they believed the killings were committed by the same gang of guerrillas who killed seven Roman Catholic missionaries last month. The military authorities refused to comment.

Sharon and her grandmother were having supper at their farmhouse home near Shemva at 7.30 pm when the guerrillas entered the property. They had apparently gained possession of a key to an unused back gate to the farm's security fence. At the time the grandmother had gone outside to await the return of a tractor.

The intruders shot and killed Sharon as she attempted to run to the safety of her bedroom. Her grandmother was killed in the dining room.

Hearing the gunfire, the grandfather drew his pistol he was carrying and ran back to the house. He shot dead one guerrilla and wounded another, putting to flight the remainder of the gang, believed to number about six.

An hour later, as the grandfather was telling the details of the attack to the security forces, he suffered his fatal heart attack. The great-aunt who died in Salisbury was Mrs Norma Sim.

The deaths of Sharon and her grandmother were among 20 guerrilla war fatalities recorded during a 24-hour period. Two of those who died were White Rhodesian soldiers, 13 were African nationalist guerrillas, and five were African women accompanying them. The deaths brought the total for the week to 123 compared with 26 the previous week.

## Leadership challenge to be resisted by Mr Whitlam

From Our Correspondent

Melbourne, March 13

Mr Gough Whitlam, who offered the Labour Party leadership to Mr Bill Hayden after losing the 1975 election, has announced that he will resist Mr Hayden's leadership challenge made last week.

In 1975 Mr Hayden offered to remain loyal to the Whitlam leadership. He has now changed his mind, presumably because of growing disenchantment with Mr Whitlam in the parliamentary Labour Party.

The party caucus meeting to elect the leader is not due for three months, but already there are indications that it could be held sooner to avoid a building up of tension.

## Canadian minister defends clubbing of seal pups

From Our Correspondent

Ottawa, March 13

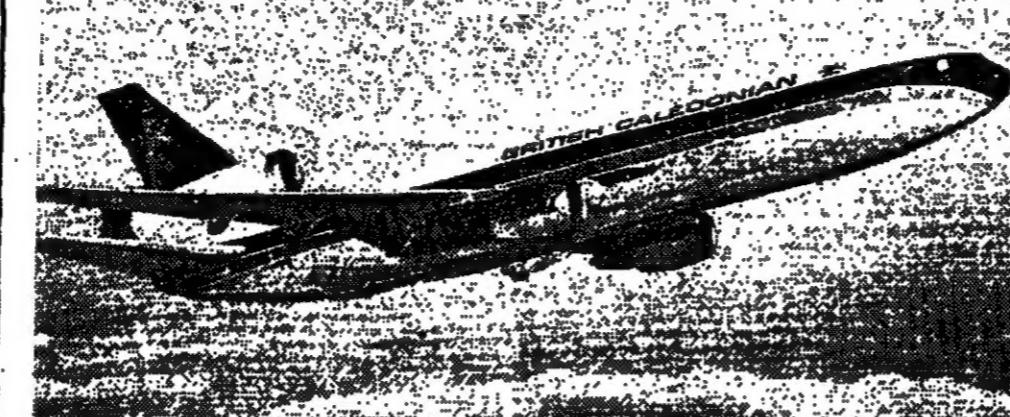
The annual seal hunt is getting under way on the ice floes off Northern Newfoundland amid the usual chorus of protest by animal lovers.

Protest groups in Canada and various other countries have mobilized their members to draw world attention to the hunt in which both Canadian and Norwegian hunters take part.

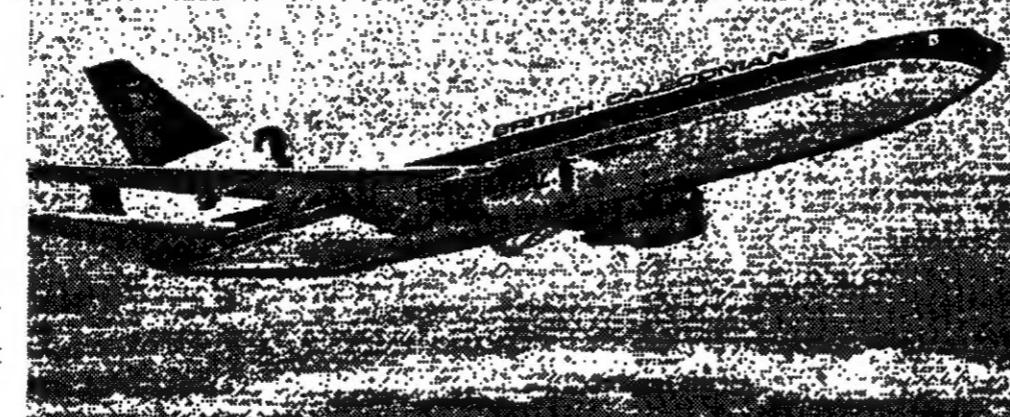
For example among them is the Greenpeace Foundation which is sending activists from Vancouver, 4,500 miles away on Canada's West coast, to join in the anti-hunting action. The foundation met with only token success in a similar protest last year.

In the face of the growing campaign against the seal harvest, the Canadian Government has been mobilizing its resources to defend it.

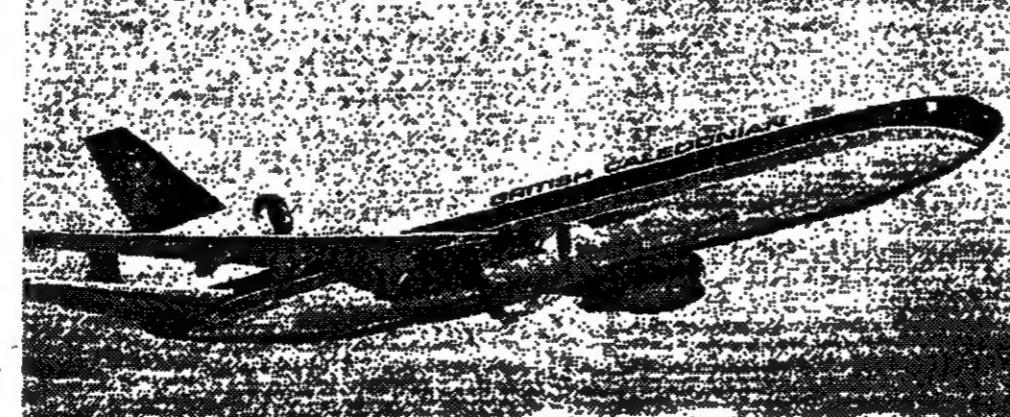
Mr Romeo Leblanc, the Fish-



Monday: Departs 12.00 to Lagos, Accra



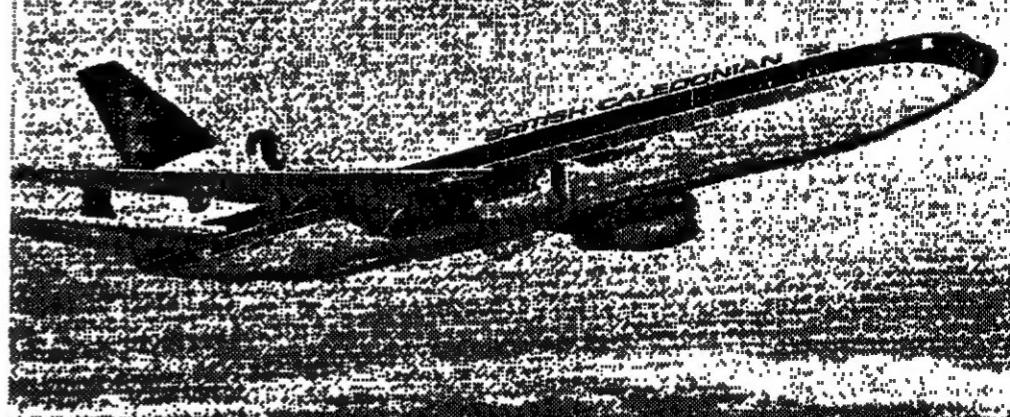
Wednesday: Departs 12.00 to Lagos, Accra



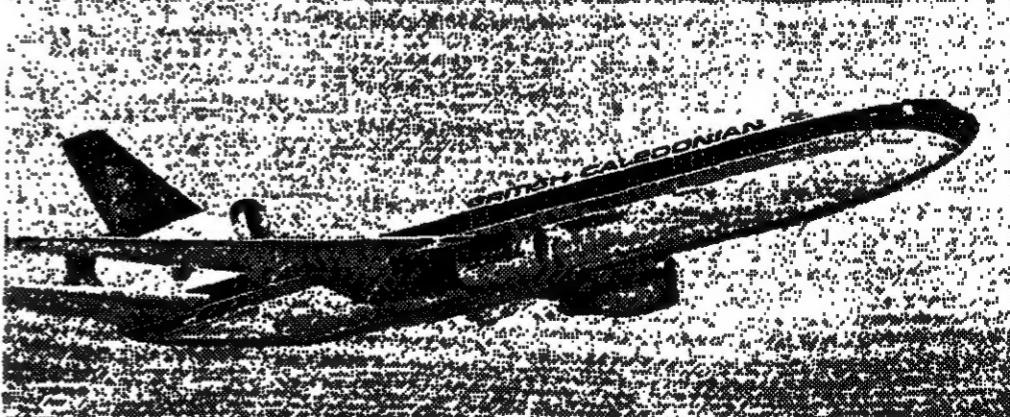
Saturday: Departs 11.30 to Accra, Lagos



Tuesday: Departs 11.30 to Kano, Lagos



Friday: Departs 11.30 to Kano, Lagos



Sunday: Departs 11.30 to Kano, Lagos

## Day by day by day by day by day by day by DC-10

From March 20th British Caledonian's new DC-10 will fly by day to West Africa six days a week. (Take off midday, arrive West Africa early evening). The addition of DC-10's to our fleet is yet another example of the Bigger B.Cal.

Now you needn't lose any sleep over flying to Lagos, Kano and Accra and you can enjoy the latest DC-10 with the outstanding new feature—British Caledonian service.

There's a wonderful feeling of spacious ease about the DC-10. The wide, wide body means you're not cramped in your seat, and gives space for double aisles so you can move easily around the aircraft.

The cabin is tall, as well as wide, and light and airy. The engines are so quiet you can hear an ice-cube drop into your pre-lunch whisky and soda.

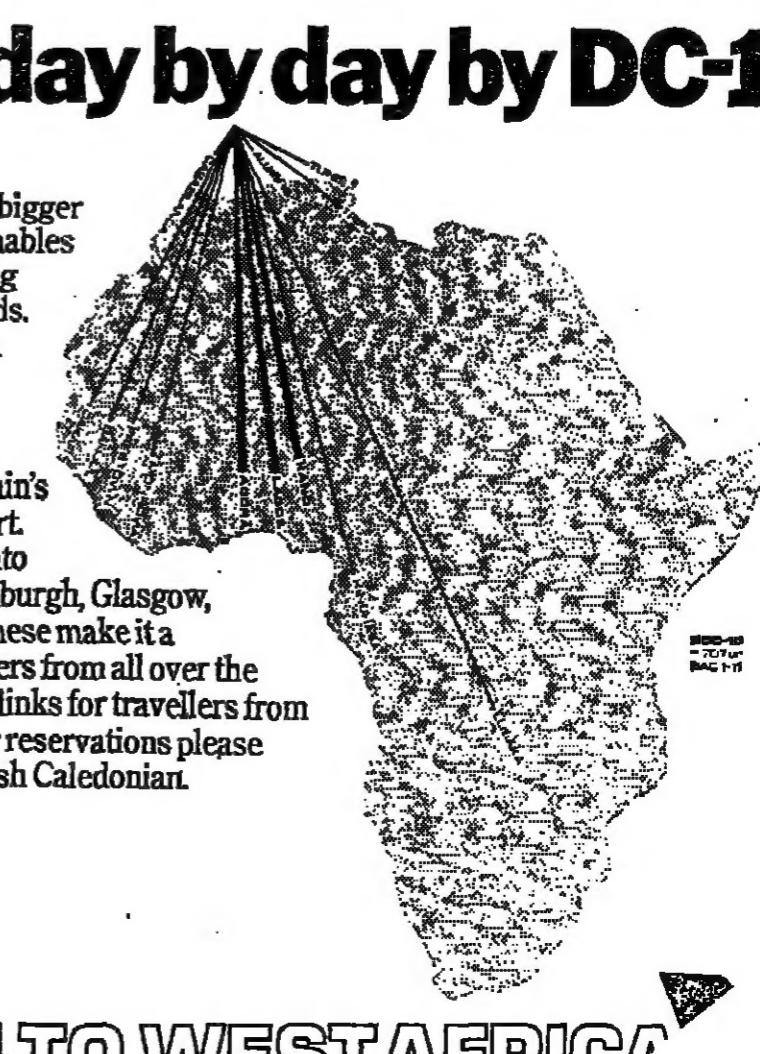
Passengers can spread themselves on the

DC-10, and so can we. Bigger galleys, bigger serving areas, more room all round enables us to turn on a service that's something special even by our own high standards.

You fly by day, by superjet with service that matches the plane. No wonder you arrive in West Africa relaxed and refreshed.

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# Local Government, Public & Educational Appointments



## Teesside Polytechnic

### HEAD OF DEPT. OF MATHEMATICS (Grade V)

*Due to the retirement of the present Head a vacancy will occur on 1st October 1977 for a person to take charge of this established department which has Undergraduates Degrees and Masters Courses and a responsibility for Mathematics teaching throughout the Polytechnic.*

*A young, well qualified mathematician of repute is sought to lead an enthusiastic team in charge teaching and research, particularly in the fields of Applied / Applicable Mathematics.*

*The Polytechnic is creating a number of PROFESSORSHIPS for academics of eminence who merit certain criteria. The successful applicant for this post may be eligible to apply.*

*Salary within the scale £2,395 to £5,010 plus £312 supplement per annum.*

*Application forms and further particulars from the Director, Teesside Polytechnic, Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS1 3RA, returnable within 24 days.*

## THE WEST OF SCOTLAND AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE SENIOR LECTURER

### DEPARTMENT OF DAIRY TECHNOLOGY

Applications are invited for the above post from persons having an appropriate University Degree and with experience at a senior level in dairy technology. Commercial experience, together with qualifications and interests in Food Process Engineering will be considered advantageously.

The post is a senior one within the Department of Dairy Technology which is involved in the three-fold functions of diploma level education in food technology, including dairy technology, dairy industry research and development programmes related to the dairy industry.

**SALARY—GRADE I—£6,166 PER ANNUM RISING TO £8,075 PLUS SUPPLEMENT OF £312 PER ANNUUM.**

### LECTURER

Applications are invited for the above post from persons having an appropriate University Degree and with experience in education and training and commercial dairy and food processing operations will be considered of advantage.

The post will be available on or about 1st October 1977.

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## SPORT

Cricket

# Glasses poised to toast a batsman

From Colin Cowdrey

Melbourne, March 13

Off the field the celebrations did not look like abiding. Glasses and their owners had a quiet old friend pause to chin-slap in a relaxed, leisurely way. In the field the two teams are at each other's throats, locked in a desperate struggle for runs.

The atmosphere is a Test match one could imagine from the ring. It is something of a puzzle why the ball should have so much master of the bat. In India Willis, Lever and his skipper were in control and here they were revelling in conditions to suit them. A mat of grass holding the moisture and an unexpected variation of bounce and spin were the key factors. The fielding was superb on both sides and so far there has been only one chance to slip away, with Knott, Marsh, Brearley, Greig and Chappell picking up outstanding catches.

At the end of the first day 34 overs had been bowled. Australia dismissed England off to a sound start. Today, under a cloudless sky, Australians fearfully expect. However, such strife might have bated for ever in the conditions. I was silent with Ponsford and Hurst, with Boycott in the new role, and had a sinking feeling that one of those nights have broken some bowlers' hearts today. But it was not to be.

Long before lunch the Australian crowd were in full voice chanting Lillee and Walker. As they ran on to bowl, there was a new and unassuming aspect of the art of batsmanship. Walker was in his element, swinging the bat about and varying his pace. But everyone was on edge, the Australian veterans and with the supreme. He posed every sort of problem and his figures did not really flatter him. England can only be thankful to have been spared. Thompson, like a good wine, seems to be coming well again in England next summer.

It was fitting and appreciated by the large crowd that Bob Parish, chairman of the Australian Cricket Board, escorted Harold Larwood and Bill Voce out of the Ashes at the last. They were given a wonderful ovation. Voce took his jacket off and marked out his run much to the



Looking back in anger: Old caught by March off Lillee.

applause of the crowd. I had some of the best strokes in fact. I was glad to see that Randall had plenty of time against the fast bowlers. Unusually, he doffed his cap to a bowler from Lillee himself. The players began to smile, but they liked it even more when he was out next ball. Greig walked in to a noisy reception, part cheering and the rest not in the least bit impressed. There is a love-hate relationship and thrives on it. Lillee took an age setting and reserving the field for his first ball to Greig, placing a lifter just behind the square-leg umpire as if to say 'This is the last ball of the day, well pitched up at the off stump.'

The crowd have been actuated by an exhibition of the batsmanship of the old masters. Lillee and Fletcher were out before they were in. Walker showed in some glimpses of his best in the second innings, but Chappell had looked rather like a fielder than a batsman. That was until the final over, when he played his last stroke for England. It was the young Hooker, in his

first Test match, who showed Greig's response was to attack. He threw himself at it like Arnold Palmer laying into a one-iron into the wind at Birkdale, both legs and arms spread. Hardly, he was late with the shot and the ball just nipped by the off-stump. It was a staggering stroke for the England captain to be beaten in the field by a batsman he once so pleased Frank Woolley, no doubt, and Charlie Barnett. They believed in taking the bowling by the scruff of the neck.

There was no chance of this happening today. Yesterday the England flag flew proudly; almost in disbelief. But now the game is back on Australia. Do we another dramatic change-round tomorrow?

AUSTRALIA: First Innings  
I. C. Davis, b. New, b. Lever  
J. G. Downton, c. Fletcher, b. Lever  
J. C. Foster, c. Fletcher, b. Lever  
D. Head, c. Fletcher, b. Lever  
K. D. Walker, c. Greig, b. Willis  
K. W. Green, c. Greig, b. Willis  
C. J. Gilmore, c. Greig, b. Old  
K. D. Underwood, c. Greig, b. Old  
M. R. Walker, c. Greig, b. Old  
D. R. Walker, b. Underwood  
Extras (b. 4, i-b. 2, n-b. 3) 12

Total 138  
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-102  
2-105; 3-171, 8-196, 10-198  
114; 12-200, 13-206; 14-206; 15-  
Willis, 16-213; 17-Old, 18-192  
19-Underwood, 20-185, 21-183

Second Innings  
I. C. Davis, b. New, b. Lever  
K. J. Gilmore, c. Willis, b. Old  
K. D. Underwood, c. Greig, b. Old  
K. D. Walker, not out 11  
Total 131 (win) 104

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-33, 2-40

BOWLING: In: Davis: Lever,  
8-22-11; Willis: Old: Greig,  
10-27-10; Walker: Underwood,  
3-2-3-0.

To bat: D. Hooker, c. Willis, b. Willis  
R. D. Head, c. Greig, b. Willis  
K. W. Green, c. Greig, b. Willis  
C. J. Gilmore, c. Greig, b. Old  
K. D. Underwood, c. Greig, b. Old

D. R. Walker, c. Greig, b. Old  
M. R. Walker, c. Greig, b. Old

ENGLAND: First Innings  
R. A. Woosnam, c. Chappell, b.  
Lillee, 1-102  
J. M. Beazley, c. Hobbs, b. Lillee  
D. Walker, c. Chappell, b. Lillee  
W. R. Randall, c. March, b. Lillee  
K. W. Green, c. March, b. Lillee  
A. P. Fletcher, c. March, b. Lillee  
P. M. Studd, c. March, b. Lillee  
J. K. Lever, c. March, b. Lillee  
Extras (b. 2, i-b. 2, n-b. 2) 11

Total 131 (loss) 103

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-19, 2-20  
3-20; 4-20, 5-20, 6-21, 7-25

BOWLING: Lillee, 13-2-3-0  
1-1; Walker, 15-2-3-0; Chappell,  
1-1; Gilmore, 1-1

## Football



Foiled again. Burridge, the Aston Villa goalkeeper, keeps hold of the ball until the danger from McKenzie passes over.

## Another Wembley cup that failed to cheer

By Norman Fox

Defeated though it had been, the Football League Cup Final had never before failed to provide a first-time winner or a goal since it acquired Wembley status in 1967. Saturday's 0-0 draw between the nervously pale Aston Villa and unadventurous Everton comfortably surpassed previous levels of anti-climax. It was another case of a cup final being a draw.

Villa needed no score early in the game and, having failed, became increasingly shabby. Everton set off well enough with McKenzie straightaway putting an early cross across the face of the ball on to the top of the goal, but he drew no incentive from early success and Villa slipped a semblance of control. Gray slipped the ball across the line and, having at last blocked the line, Hamilton and, early in the second half, pouncing on a mistake by Lyons. He moved quickly into the penalty area, but Lawson was equally quick to meet him and block the shot. The rebounded ball went to Delaney, but again Lawson deflected it.

If the game is remembered at all, it could be for the strange sight of players searching for spurs lost by the badsmen, and even that was not certain. Villa's score into the attack so often began with the flight of Mariner, who had expected and indeed driven back by the Everton players, who were effective and brief.

No one of the players we had expected and, indeed, wanted to show invention and confidence overcame the occasion. Villa's speed into the attack so often began with the flight of Mariner, who had expected and indeed driven back by the Everton players, who were effective and brief.

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## SPORT

## Athletics

**Britain's small band of gold led by Coe and Miss Colebrook**

From Cliff Temple  
Athletics Correspondent  
San Sebastian, March 13

On an afternoon of splendour which British athletics will enjoy reliving many times in future years, our small squad of athletes competing in the European indoor championships here today claimed three gold and two silver medals. The golden haul took just 25 minutes of track action, and left a queue of British winners waiting for the soft chair in the interview room. Katrina Jane Colebrook (women's 800 metres), Sebastian Coe (men's 800 metres) and Mary Stewart (women's 1,500 metres) took it in turn to show the rest of Europe the way home, each in his or her own style.

Miss Colebrook, over whom perhaps the biggest question mark was hanging, because she qualified for the final only as one of the fastest losers in Saturday's heats, was content to sit in on the field and let them take her through. In 46.40 seconds she made a minor 57.66-second. She made her move wide round the last bend to overtake her rivals in the classic style, winning in 2 minutes 1.1 seconds, and equalising the world indoor record. It has been a long time since from Miss Colebrook, 20-year-old Lincolnshire secretary, whose outdoor best is still only 2.7.5. "I feel much better than in the heats," she said, "and when I was stuck with them and feeling comfortable at the back, I knew I had the chance to win."

Coe, whose racing maturity has been a highlight of the championships as he won heat semi-final and final in apparent relaxed composure, was equally successful in the world's best in his event, winning in 1:46.5, a personal improvement of one second. He was delighted to have drawn lane one and made the best use of his luck, going hard from the gun to grab the lead from 200 metres out. Then, as the rest of the field were knocking each other silly with wild pushes from the side, he sped, smooth as silk, towards victory. "I'm going to try to make the best use of my strengths," he said, just before the race, and that is what he came down to do.

Miss Stewart made her effort with 400 metres left, after the Bulgarian, Tschavdarova, had improved by setting a swift pace. "We're not going to expect," Miss Stewart said, "I had thought about going ahead earlier, but as she did it all for me, what was the point?"

## For the record

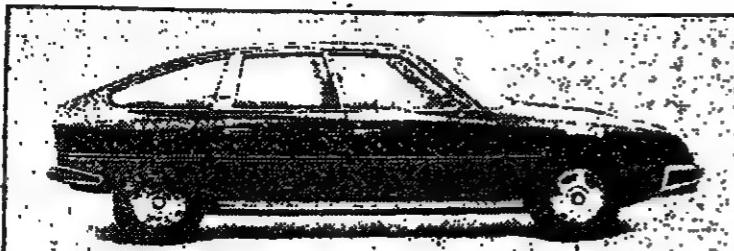
## Sandown Park results

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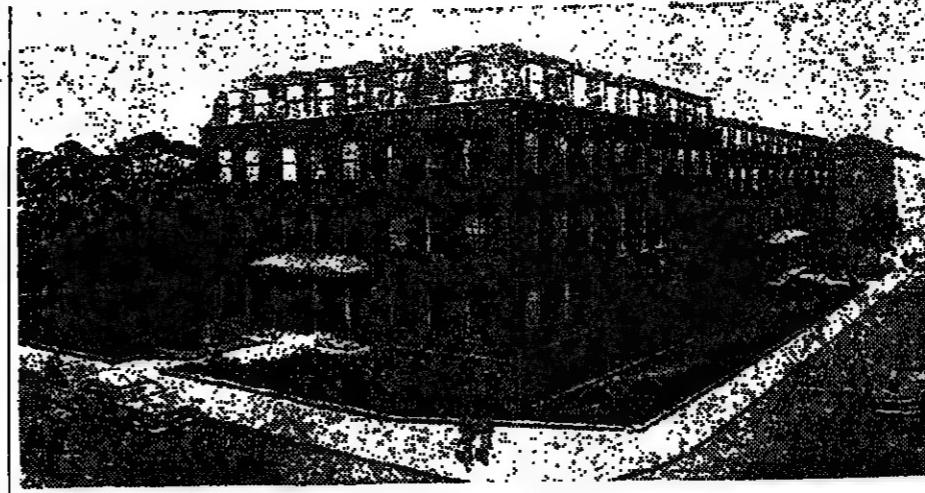
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An artist's impression of the planned Marlborough House building in St Albans.

Pension funds continue to be active in the investment market, both in the office and industrial sectors. One large transaction has been the purchase by the Scottish Permanent Pension Fund of "Erskine House" in Queen Street, Edinburgh, at a figure approaching £5m. The building is in the heart of the financial area close to Charlotte Square and provides space of about 76,500 sq ft of offices.

It is let to a number of tenants, including the Bank of Scotland, Lloyds and Scottish, and Saxe and Prosper, and the acquisition represents a yield of about 6% per cent to S.P.F. The vendor was British Assets, who were represented by P. J. Leggate and Co. Conrad Ribbax introduced the property to the pension fund, for whom Debenham Tewson and Company acted.

In a transaction worth more than £1m, Imperial Group Pension Funds have acquired the freehold interest in a factory and two warehouse units at Imber Court, Orchard Lane, East Molesley, Surrey, from the Central and Sherwood Group. The factory unit contains 68,500 sq ft of factory, warehouse and ancillary space, let to Imperial Chemical Industries, Solicitors' Law Stationery and Sterling Wainwright, and producing a total rent of about £88,500 a year, with a substantial reverentiality interest.

Richard Ellis and Gooch and Wagstaff acted for the pension fund and the vendor was represented by Leighton Goldhill and Partners. In addition to the transaction, the fund is financing the construction of a fourth unit of some 29,000 sq ft of warehouse and office space, due for completion shortly.

In Leeds, Compton House, in Woodhouse, has also been let and sold. The building, containing 18,245 sq ft of offices, was originally bought by Kenneth Needs (Contractors) as a multi-storey warehouse property which they renovated and converted into offices, and later let to British Rail at just under £3 a sq ft and the resulting investment was sold to the Grand Metropolitan Pension Fund, to show an equal yield of about 8.5 per cent.

Smith Metzack and Co., Holte and Partners and Norman Rourke and Partners acted for

**Pension fund in £5m deal**

Kenneth Needs in both the letting and sale of the investment.

New office developments are rare these days, but Grosvenor Estate Commercial Developments have received planning permission to go ahead with the first phase of a scheme to be known as Marlborough House, St Albans. The scheme is one of the first of its kind to be given planning permission in the city for some time. The site covers the half acre site close to the High Street, the main shopping thoroughfare, and design is by Stone Toms and Partners.

The first phase will consist of a four-storey building giving 15,000 sq ft gross, or 10,500 sq ft net, over 18 carpeted semi-basement levels. The building will be faced with brick, with aluminium casement windows, and the area around will be landscaped. Work is to begin in June for completion about a year later. Letting will be through Jones Lang Wootton. A second phase of the development is planned to provide a similar amount of space.

In Stamford an office and shop development is being carried out by London and Manchester Developers, who have been let and the investment sold although only piling has started and the building is not due for completion before November 1978. The whole office content of about 65,000 sq ft is to be let by Stamford Borough Council, represented by Evans and Evans, of Stamford, as rehouse in one building, department now scattered on five separate sites. The uppermost section, of 20,000 sq ft, has been let to Allied Suppliers, a subsidiary of Cavenham Foods, for what will be the sixty-sixth store in their Presto supermarket chain. Allied were represented by J. Trevor and Sons, of London. The scheme, costing £1.2m, is to a design by Phillips, Currie,

Phillips, Troy, of West Bromwich, is on the Royal Brinsford, Shropshire, riverside site in Greenford, Surrey.

Hiller Parker May and Rowden act for London and Manchester in the letting of the supermarket and the sale of the whole investment to Norwich Union.

In Banbury, Oxfordshire, Standard Life Assurance Co have begun work on the first phase of the Cherwell Centre, an office and shop development, on the site of the former Standard Life Assurance Co building, which includes a store of about 50,000 sq ft, which has been pre-let to Littlewoods, seven shops and some 18,000 sq ft net of offices. Design is by Hildebrand and Glicker and the building contract has gone to Taylor Woodrow. Project manager is G. Groves Properties.

Planning consent and an office development permit have also been obtained for a second phase, consisting of an office precinct providing an additional 15,000 sq ft, with a linked multi-storey car park for 530 cars. Letting is through Edwards Bigwood and Bewley and Hillier Parker May and Rowden.

An opportunity to acquire ownership of a building offered by the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, who are to sub-let the north wing of the new town hall in Holland Street. The building, designed by the late Sir Aston Webb, is on the upper floors of the new town hall, so that each floor is larger than the one below it. The wing being offered comprises 10,000 sq ft of air-conditioned, open-plan offices on three floors. Letting is through a joint venture between the Royal Borough and Baker, Rees, with Healey and Baker. Rent is about £3 a sq ft.

Even more unusual is a small penthouse office suite on the twentieth floor of the Roundhouse building in Birmingham. The building, amounting to 2,132 sq ft, was specially built for M.P.C. the owners of the building, before their move to their new development, Metrodome House, in Five Ways, Birmingham. It includes a kitchen and an executive shower room and a feature is a balcony and sun terrace. The suite is to let on a lease of 25 years at an initial rent of £4,750 a year through Bernard Thorpe and Partners.

Gerald Ely

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David Steel

# These timid, damaging proposals can only hurt industrial harmony

If you ask a silly question you can expect a silly answer. The Bullock committee's algebraic solution to industrial democracy was almost an inevitable consequence of their limited terms of reference which were to find a method of getting trade union representation on to boards of directors, not how best to create an atmosphere of industrial harmony in place of strife.

The very phrase "worker director" sums up what is so wrong with much of British industrial relations. It is, in concert, patrician, patronizing, old fashioned and riddled with class prejudice. The opposing forces are now to be marshalled in the boardrooms as well as on the shop floors.

Can't we get across the simple aim of people working in industrial units with varying degrees of responsibility in a common enterprise? It should be possible and of course it is.

If the Government proceeds to legislate on the basis of the majority recommendation of the Bullock report, their Bill is unlikely to proceed very far; and the Liberal Party, which has so long been committed to industrial partnership, will certainly be driven to oppose it. On the other hand if the Government's new devolution stance of "seeking the widest

measure of agreement in Parliament" were to be extended to this subject, we could surely agree on policies which ought to be implemented to bring what is called "both sides of industry" (as though it were a battlefield) closer together in the joint effort for more effective productivity. The task should be to end our chronic propensity to stoppage, disruption and go slow.

The first priority should be to create statutory works councils in every place of work of over 50 people. Democratically elected bodies at the grass roots should be empowered to consult and cooperate with management on job evaluation, wage structures and piece rates. They should involve themselves in such questions as working times, holidays and overtime arrangements. They should be consulted on a much wider subjects as redundancies, takeovers, mergers, all of which will affect the lives of the employees concerned.

The second priority is to give direct encouragement to profit-sharing schemes. If the land of rampant free enterprise—the United States of America—has been able to do it, so should we. Last autumn I was impressed by the spread of such schemes in America and in par-

## The very phrase 'worker director' sums up what is so wrong with our industrial relations

icular the example of Sears Roebuck.

Nearly 20 per cent of Sears Roebuck, the largest retailing company in the world, which has headquarters in the tallest building in the world in Chicago, is owned by the employees. This is encouraged by the United States Government, which exempts from tax company profits that are distributed into employee share ownership funds, until the employee receives his shares from the fund and is made liable to capital gains tax.

Through the tax system the Government may impose conditions on the fund. United States law requires that to be exempt from tax the fund must benefit more than 70 per cent of the employees. The fund must also not discriminate to

towards shareholders, officers or highly compensated employees, and must be for the exclusive benefit of the members.

Each year the company sets aside 11 per cent of its consolidated income. This is then distributed among employees who are members of the savings and profit sharing fund. For each dollar invested in the fund by an employee, he receives (if he has worked for the company for less than five years) one unit of contribution.

The units of contribution increase with length of service, so that an employee of 15 years standing receives four units of contribution for each dollar invested. An employee participating in the fund may not deposit more than 750 dollars in any one year. This limit was imposed so that higher-salaried

employees should not take too large a proportion of the fund.

In 1975, the average value of a fund member's account on retiring was over 35,000 dollars. The employees' average contribution before retiring was 5,811 dollars. Thus nearly 30,000 dollars had been built up by company distribution of profits and the increase in the value of shares held by the fund.

The directors of the company persuaded me of the value of their own scheme in promoting employee identification with the interests of the company. I tackled one of the employees of another company I visited and asked whether he felt any direct benefit from participation in his employer's stockholding scheme. "Benefit?" he asked. "I've bought my house through it and I've stayed with the same outfit for 24 years—you wouldn't get me to move to anyone else in a hurry."

The importance of this is accentuated by the coming pay policy debate. Under the social contract it has been impossible to create new profit sharing schemes. Now in the next phase it is surely desirable to exempt cash received as a dividend on employee held stock or as a

direct share of profit from the control of pay increases. In this way there would be a direct incentive for the system of profit sharing. Beyond the period of pay restraint such schemes could be encouraged by offering a deduction from corporation tax to companies

which have set up such schemes.

The third—and only the third

step towards industrial parity should be the election of supervisory boards of com-

panies on a 50-50 basis jointly

by employees and sharehold-

ers, thus ensuring that every

board member had to have sup-

port from both shareholders

and employees.

There should be no "worker directors" as such at all. Those

who put their daily work into

an enterprise should share a

democratic right with those

who put their cash into it.

All this is an altogether more

comprehensive and radical

proposal than the timid and

damaging proposals of Bullock

which appear designed to ex-

pend the patronage of one part

of our increasingly corporate

state than to usher in a new

era of common effort to restore

our economy.

The author is Liberal MP for Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles.

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## Profits and the Union Jack are still flying high in Hongkong

Hongkong

The date 1997 is supposed to be engraved on the heart of every businessman here. In that year the 99-year lease of the New Territories will expire, and that will be the end of Hongkong as a British colony. The Union Jack will be hauled down for the last time and the colony will revert to China.

There was indeed some apprehension after the death of chairman Mao when the Chinese leadership was shaken by mysterious internal rumblings, but since the disgrace of the "gang of four" that engraving does not seem to have caused any heartburn among the business community. The colonial administration also looks to the future with a serenity normally associated with Confucian philosophers.

The calm is understandable, at least in the pragmatic atmosphere of this remarkable colony. There is nothing Britain can do if China wants Hongkong back. The tiny British garrison would not dream of resisting the hordes of the Chinese People's Liberation Army.

The last consideration is of great importance. Hongkong is one of the few places in the world where a laissez-faire economy is allowed to work and works successfully. Free trade, free enterprise and free monetary exchange could well be Hongkong's motto. Apart from liquor, tobacco, oil and cars, there are no customs duty, purchase tax of VAT, and profits tax is only 17 per cent. Income tax is a flat 15 per cent.

It works. Peking knows it works, and it must know that it would cease to work if and when Hongkong returns to China. There is nothing Britain can do if China wants Hongkong back. The tiny British garrison would not dream of resisting the hordes of the Chinese People's Liberation Army should Peking decide to revere by force what is rightly theirs because resistance would be useless.

This simple fact enormously simplifies any appreciation of what the future may hold, but for the Hongkong Chinese and expatriate communities it is not a simple matter of obeying Con-

ting's enjoiner that if you cannot afford to leave it, you cannot avoid rape it back and enjoy it. Or, in western terms, it does not mean drink and be merry because you will soon be on a trooping bound for old Blighty's benighted shore.

Hongkongers behave as if the lease was a freehold and Britain still ruled the waves. For instance, after the completion of the tunnel to Kowloon, an underground train system is now being built, and the housing authority is proceeding with a massive rehousing programme which should shame the GLC. The skyline is changing faster than Houston's, as block after block of office buildings and hotels reach upwards towards the Peak.

One reason why Hongkong is so confident is because seen from here 20 years is a long time in this uncertain age. A second reason is that much can happen, and for the mutual benefit of China, the people of Hongkong and Britain, as long as all three remain rational and cool headed. A third is that Peking is not impatient to end what it has rightly described as the historically unequal treaty.

This confidence seems to improve history. Mr Nehru was not prepared to permit Portuguese Goa to survive although it was no threat to India. The Chinese are no threat to India. The Chinese are a proud people, and while they are primarily concerned with the return of Taiwan, they must surely want to expunge the last traces of colonialism.

Well-informed people in and outside of the colonial administration think otherwise. Their confidence could be well founded, but there are obviously three qualifications.

First, the governance of China must remain in the hands of pragmatic men who remember Mr Chou En-lai as their mentor. Secondly, if foreign investment in Hongkong is to continue, Peking should give some indication of its intentions before the mid-eighties. No need is seen for formal agreement. The oblique way with which the future of Macau was couched will probably be enough.

Thirdly, Britain should be as willing as is China to put ideological questions aside, and ponder the future in terms of its own interests and those of the people of Hongkong. There is no reason for it to be more amibitious than Peking, and it has much to gain if it is as pragmatic as Peking. It has a duty to the people of Hongkong. It also has much to learn from them, but more of that in a second report.

Louis Heren

## Argentina: can the President's 'moderate' image last?

When Venezuela's ambassador in Buenos Aires told the press that President Jorge Videla of Argentina would visit Venezuela at the invitation of President Carlos Andres Perez, he was announcing Videla's greatest diplomatic triumph to date. Perez has the reputation of seeking to use Venezuela's oil wealth to bring "social" justice to his countrymen.

Among the subjects Videla and Perez will be discussing is the attitude of the new Carter administration to Latin America. Argentina's military rulers found a sympathetic ear in Washington, but a growing number of congressmen have been questioning their government's security assistance programme to Argentina in the light of the military regime's persistent violations of human rights.

President Carter has now decided to override the State Department and cut the programme drastically. Argentina has replied by refusing to accept the reduced allocation, accusing the United States of trying to set itself up as an unofficial international court

from one prison to another. Videla and his colleagues were doing all they could to curb human rights violations. But the report failed to explain the increase in the number of detainees from 4,000 to 6,000 since the military seized power in March: some 18,000 more, the activities of the para-police groups whose campaign of abduction and murder has continued with impunity, and the daily toll of guerrillas being killed by the security forces in "armed clashes".

The Argentine security forces claim to have killed more than 1,300 guerrillas in 1976 against insignificant casualties on their side. However, the increasing number of reports now reaching human rights organizations, like Amnesty International, "breathes the strong suspicion that the armed clashes" reported by the security forces are one of the explanations of the fate of some of those "disappeared".

The story of the deaths of two prisoners, Dardo Cabo and Rufino Uriz, while being transferred under armed escort

Patrick Rice, an Irish priest. He was kidnapped in Buenos Aires in October, 1976, by armed and masked men in civilian dress who identified themselves as members of the notorious "AAA" (Argentine Anti-communist Alliance). They took him to a police station where they beat him up, then to an army barracks, where they tortured him. He was finally released in December—by the army.

The state of siege was declared in November, 1974, by the Peronist government, and the Constitutional Acts declared by the junta in March, 1976, provide a legal framework for the repression. The effect of these is to place non-violent dissent on the same level as armed insurrection, and to withhold the protection of the law from those the military chooses to regard as "subversive".

Death squads or para-police groups are used to terrorize and intimidate the non-violent left. Videla disowns them and explains their existence as an uncontrollable extreme reaction to "subversion". One testimony among many of the active involvement of officers of the police and armed forces is that their inability to control the

workers. On taking power, General Videla identified industrial subversion as the real enemy.

All normal union activities such as collective bargaining, election of officers and holding of branch meetings, were banned under the unconstitutional Acts decreed after the coup. The laws regulating unfair dismissal were annulled, and politically motivated sackings became commonplace.

The minimum wage ceased to be adjusted according to increases in the cost of living. Strikes were banned and anyone suspected of organizing industrial action is tried by a military tribunal and faces prison sentences of up to 10 years. The Confederation General de Trabajo (CGT) and the 36 most important unions were "interdicted" by the military. Military personnel were introduced into many plants to "increase productivity". Union activity thus became "subversive".

Not surprisingly, the labour front has been far from peaceful since the coup. All the major car manufacturers were hit by strikes last year. Whole sectors of Buenos Aires suffered blackouts in October and

November as electricity workers refused to work except when soldiers appeared.

The tense labour situation is likely to spread as Martínez de Hoz, the Economy Minister, carries out his plan to cut the budget deficit by reducing the public sector payroll by 300,000. As a start, 1,500 employees of the railways and the agriculture ministry have been dismissed. It is hard to see how Videla can comply with pressure from the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions to respect trade union rights without abandoning the economic base of his "National Reorganization".

So far Videla has had an easy ride, but pressure for human rights continues to grow, and his "moderate" image may not survive much longer.

David Wright

The author is a British businessman who worked in Argentina from 1970 to 1975.

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## St. John Ambulance: safety in numbers

Men and women in a certain uniform have become such familiar bystanders at public assemblies that the eye passes over them, as over Chesterton's invisible man, without causing a ripple of surprise. These figures in their old-fashioned black uniforms and white cross-belts, wearing the eight-pointed white cross of the medieval republic of Amalfi, lurk discreetly beside the touchlines in the shadows at the back of the stalls, behind the soldiers and police lining processional routes, and everywhere else that crowds gather.

They have been doing it so efficiently and for so long that we take them for granted: until the crowd screams, or the traffic crashes, when their speed and expert presence can make the difference between life and death. Last year the volunteers of the St. John Ambulance treated 345,532 patients needing first aid or more serious medical attention in England. Apart from a small administrative staff, the 90,000 members of the Brigade in England, are unpaid, most of them even buying their own uniforms.

St. John Ambulance is not

part of the National Health Service, though many suppose it to be so because of its ubiquity and its official appearance. It is financed entirely by gifts, and manned and womanised by philanthropic volunteers. It operates in about 50 countries, either of the Commonwealth or formerly of the Commonwealth of Amalfi, lurking discreetly beside the touchlines in the shadows at the back of the stalls, behind the soldiers and police lining processional routes, and everywhere else that crowds gather.

This year the St. John Ambulance is celebrating its centenary, so giving us the opportunity to thank our stars of Malta that it is there when we need it. The Queen and her family, who are enthusiastic supporters of an organization that describes itself as the last of the medieval orders of chivalry still performing the practical function for which it was founded, helped to initiate the centenary year by turning out in mask for a very royal gala.

The volunteers were pushed out of the Holy Land in 1291.

The very practical modern

ambulance and first aid services are charitable foundations of what is officially described, in a romantic title whispering the last mumble-jumbo of the Middle Ages, as the Most Venerable Order of St John of Jerusalem in the British Realm. Its Grand Priory has its modern headquarters, as it had its medieval headquarters, at St John's Gate, Clerkenwell. And it traces its origins, by a complicated and somewhat circuitous route, to the Knights Hospitallers of St John at Jerusalem, who provided a hospital for pilgrims to the Holy Land in 1307 and an English Prior was again appointed. The Sovereign Order of Malta did not recognize it because it admitted Protestants. But in recent years the two Orders claiming descent from the medieval Hospitallers have come closer together, and in 1963 signed a declaration of concord and shared ideals.

The revived English Order interested itself in the nursing and other para-medical work pioneered by Florence Nightingale. During the Franco-Prussian War its members set up a society for aid to the sick and wounded in war, which ultimately became the St. John Ambulance Brigade. It was founded in 1887 to provide a uniformed first aid service of nursing and medical members (men) and nursing members (women) wherever it was needed. In 1892 the English Order established the St. John Ophthalmic Hospital in Jerusalem. The large new hospital, opened in 1960, treats eye diseases from all over the Middle East and does frontline medical research, especially into the cause and cure of trachoma.

The origins and nomenclature of the St. John Ambulance Association and Brigade may be lost in the mists of history. They still boast a Grand Prior (the Duke of Gloucester), a Bailiff of Egle, and numerous other fabulous creatures.

Their uniform still curiously resembles the medieval painting of a Knight of St John at Rhodes in monastic dress. But their medical services are the best and most up-to-date available to modern science. Their sea rescue service on Guernsey is the envy and instructor of the rest of the world. Their Air Wing flew 52 missions last year carrying kidneys and other organs for transplant urgently where they were needed. Their Air Attendant Service charters ambulance aircraft and transports patients all over the world.

The St. John Ambulance Brigade does cliff, mountain, coast and river rescue, as well as Cup Final patrol and other less glamorous but no less important duties. It's volunteer and practical spirit of coming to help, down where the mud and blood are, still that of St. Gerard, its founding father. In an engaging English way it manages to combine ancient and romantic traditions with the modern and extremely practical institution of coming to rescue those in accident, emergency, and other trouble.

Philip Howard

The author is a former member of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

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## The Times Diary

### Snapping up the Shaw-fire hits

head, Orther Shaw plays in the Kuluksundis portfolio are Canada, which is planning to produce a film, and Major, which is developing a project in Australia. Both are less certain. Though the Society of Authors own the Shaw rights, any improvisor can purchase them for a limited period.

Explaining his decision not

# FLORIDA

a Special Report



by Patrick Brogan

**Florida** is a state of mind. For the inhabitants of the rest of the Union, it is a long sandbank dropping down from Georgia, with exotic vegetation and a perfect climate. Every girl in the frozen north dreams of a Florida sun tan, every child dreams of Disney World, everyone dreams of Cape Kennedy and the Apollo adventure and it is well known that good Americans, before they die, go to Florida.

It looks different to people who live there. Old-established natives of the place (people who have been there more than 10 years) note with astonishment the changes they have seen. Miami will soon have a Spanish-speaking majority. Tampa is becoming an important industrial zone, growing at enormous speed. Florida, they say, will be the second most populous state in the Union by the year 2000 (after California) and is already setting an example in the environment, protecting the environment while encouraging frenetic growth.

Both those images are correct. Twenty-nine million visitors cannot be wrong—Florida is the perfect place for a holiday, one sort of a holiday anyway. It is also growing in population faster than any other state of the Union, in a process with many of the characteristics of the mass immigrations of the nineteenth century, and it has to offer its new citizens a diversity of resources and opportunities to balance their own variety.

There is another side to it. The fruit and vegetables are picked by migrant labourers, most of them Spanish-speakers who move from farm to farm and follow the crops across the United States. They live in poverty and squalor, and America (not just Florida) allows it because to pay them a decent wage would mean paying two or three times as much for oranges or tomatoes.

Their misery is equalled by that of the Seminole Indians, subsisting in the swamps (some of them still cannot speak English), who have never accepted America and who are a living

ing and enduring reminder of one of the great wrongs of American history.

Florida is fortunate in that it started growing on this scale fairly recently and can thus see the mistakes made by California in the golden. It will be some time before Tampa-St Petersburg catches up with Los Angeles and it thus has the opportunity to do things rather better than that city.

It can also learn from its own mistakes. The great boom area of the 1950s and 1960s was Miami, particularly Miami Beach, where the lure of profits was irresistible and the hotels and jointly owned flats, known as condominiums, were built up to the water's edge. When the construction was finished and the place completely ruined, others took warning.

Fort Lauderdale, up the coast, has a wide and beautiful beach and keeps the buildings across the road behind it. It therefore prospers while Miami Beach is beginning to look very rundown.

Florida is also fortunate in its size. It covers 54,000 sq miles (England covers 50,000 sq miles) with a population of 8,500,000. There is thus plenty of room for growth.

Like everywhere else, Florida has suffered from the recession. Its coasts are lined with blocks of flats, unsold or uncompleted. Things are now looking up and the state confidently expects the fast rate of expansion of earlier years to be resumed. This is where the Governor, Mr Reuben Askew, and his administration, and that of his successor in 1978, will face their most serious challenge.

It is all very well to protect the environment and control growth during a recession. It is quite another thing to face the full flood of an American boom and protect the air, the waters, the beaches and the farmlands from destruction.

Mr Askew is confident that it can be done. Laws are not enough because exemptions can always be made but there are stringent laws on the books to protect the environment and commissions to control expansion. The main thing is the people, and Mr Askew says that all Floridians now share his concern for the environment.

He is probably right, as vegetable fields which are every meeting of legislative committees is open to the public.

On the east coast, Tampa-St Petersburg have between them a population of 1,250,000 or so and are now the main centres of industrial growth in Florida. Orlando, in the centre of Florida, is the agricultural capital of the state, and also the home of Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck and Goofy.

Down most of the length of the east coast of Florida run a series of sand bars and islands. The best known of them is Miami Beach, which is covered with cement. Others are kept as parks, including most of the island of Key Biscayne, immediately south of Miami Beach, where President Nixon had his "southern White House".

At the tip of the peninsula they run off in a series of islands 150 miles south and west into the Caribbean. The last of them is Key West, and although the first few keys are commercial and depressing, the ones farther out have been protected by strict zoning laws and preservation orders. They are very beautiful.

They are linked by a causeway, originally built for a railway, and it is one of the most spectacular drives in the United States. One of the bridges is seven miles long.

By the time Mr Chiles reached Key West he had won so much favourable publicity that he had assured his victory in the Democratic primary. At the same time a little-known state legislator from Pensacola, Mr Reuben Askew, won the Democratic nomination for governor on the novel platform that communities ought to pay taxes to their government ought to be honest; and that Florida should have effective land-use legislation.

He and Mr Chiles were both elected and a new era in Florida politics began. Mr Askew got his programme through the legislature and won easy re-election in 1974 (he did not run a third time and there is a break-off gathering way to succeed him in 1978).

The Governor supported busing at a time when Mr George Wallace was the state's favourite politician, and has enforced "sunshine laws" in the state government, which ensure that

every meeting of legislative committees is open to the public.

He represented the New South and was often mentioned as a possible vice-president or even president. He chose not to run, however, which was probably fortunate because another New South governor, Mr Jimmy Carter of Georgia, also elected in 1970, had ambitions of his own.

The relations between the two are a matter of much curiosity. They were not friends in the days when Mr Carter was Governor of Georgia. It is said that Mr Carter missed no opportunity of upsetting his fellow-governor, including Mr Askew, and that they did not like it.

Mr Askew conspicuously did not support Mr Carter during the Florida primary a year ago. In fact he supported Senator Henry Jackson, though he spoke warmly enough to make much difference. The election was one of the crucial events in Mr Carter's march to the White House. He was running against Mr Wallace and if he had lost, his campaign would have ended there and Mr Ford would probably still be President.

Florida's liberal Democrats supported Mr Carter nor because they loved him, although many came to do so later, but because he was the best bet to defeat Mr Wallace. He had just suffered a serious defeat in the Massachusetts primary and needed all the support he could get.

So Governor Askew's coolness was ill received. Mr Carter won 34 per cent of the vote, Mr Wallace 31 per cent and Senator Jackson 24 per cent. However, the President seems to have forgiven and forgotten and has appointed Mr Askew to be chairman of a committee to examine the qualification of people nominated to ambassadorships.

Florida, with a Democratic Governor and two Democratic senators, has thus mended its bridges with Washington. Coping with the recession and the weather is not so easy.

The year began badly with high unemployment, a continuing recession in construction, a frost which caused severe damage to the tomato crop and hurt the citrus fruits, and a vote by the City Council of Miami

continued on page IV



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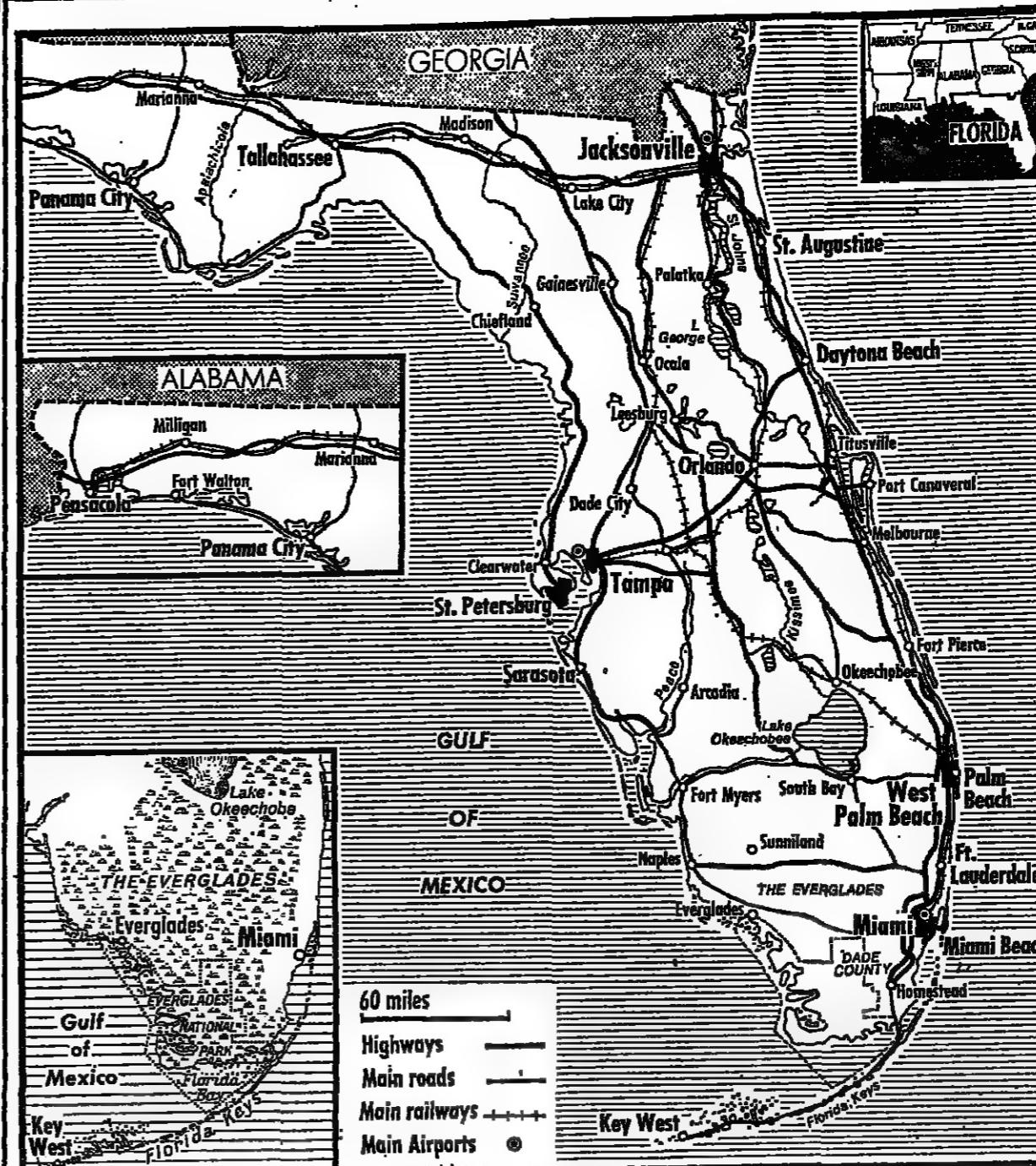
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by Patrick Brogan

Florida was bought by the United States from Spain in 1821 for \$5m. The Spaniards had controlled it on and off for 300 years without deriving any benefit from it. Their most notable contribution to Florida's history was the extermination of most of its indigenous Indians.

They left a few place names, including Cape Canaveral, St. Augustine and some earthworks with some of those astonishing examples of heroism and endurance which marked the history of the Conquistadores in Florida.

French Huguenots founded a colony in northern Florida and were massacred by the Spaniards in 1565. The British acquired it in 1763, after the Seven Years' War, but found no particular use or profit in it and returned it to Spain in 1783 after losing the 13 colonies. Neither French nor British left any mark at all on Florida.

Spain sold Florida because it could not be defended against the United States and because it was not worth defending. Florida is a modern creation. Until the nineteenth century its inhabitants lacked the technology, the investment and the manpower to develop it. Its swamps and sandbanks were too much for the Spaniards. Their attempts to conquer it were romantic enough,

however, and Mrs Jahoda describes them with verve and skill. But they belong to the state's prehistory; the real history of the place begins with Andrew Jackson and the Seminole wars.

The Seminole Indians are a branch of the Creek who were some of the most advanced of North American Indian tribes and lived in Alabama and Georgia until driven out by the Americans. Some took refuge in Florida and changed their name. In due course, President Jackson decreed that they should follow their cousins to Oklahoma.

The second Seminole war lasted from 1835 to 1842 and cost \$40m and an untold number of lives. The Seminole chief was Osceola, now rightly remembered as a hero, who was finally captured and left to die in a cellar. Most of the Seminoles were killed, captured or surrendered and the survivors deported westward.

One small band retreated into the very depths of the Everglades and survived. Their descendants are still there, living in poverty and, according to Mrs Jahoda, keeping the flames of resistance alight.

Then came the settlers to drain the swamp and clear the land. Mrs Jahoda paints a marvellous picture of the process: the cycle of boom and bust in the real estate market, the collapse of

the book is one of a series conceived to mark the Bicentennial with one volume on the history of each of the states. It is well written, entertaining and informative. It is true that Mrs Jahoda is lucky in her state: it would be very difficult to write a dull history of Florida.

She mentions one worthy effort, however, a book about Palm Beach published 10 years ago which never

mentioning the Kennedy family. Joe Kennedy had a large estate there and his son frequently visited him, but he was Irish, Roman Catholic and rather vulgar, and so Palm Beach preferred to ignore him.

The history of Florida, like that of the western states, was made by its immigrants. Successive waves of Spanish-speaking people from South America have settled there. Tampa, for instance, had a large colony from Cuba, making cigars.

There are Greek sponge divers on the west coast, Yiddish-speaking refugees from eastern Europe, pugs ending their days on the Gold Coast, and gentlemen of Sicilian antecedents interested in the hotel business in Miami Beach. When a Senate committee tried to

investigate the Mafia's involvement with the CIA in attempts to have Dr Castro murdered, one key witness was found shot in his basement in Chicago and the other, Mr John Rosseli, was fished up at sea in a barrel, off the coast of Florida.

Thus does nature outdo art. By and large, however, Florida has had a peaceful existence since the Seminole's peripatetic role in the Civil War, although it seemed like the rest of the South and violence more often than from political or criminal disputes.

Ponce de Leon, the first European to set foot in North America since the Vikings came to Florida in 1513 seeking Eldorado or the Fountain of Youth. He found neither, but a large part of today's population have found acceptable alternatives, and a still larger proportion of citizens of more northerly and cooler states believe that those magic places are still to be found in Florida.

The state's history has taken a new departure since the last war, with a rapid growth in population and wealth. Florida now seems destined to become one of the most populous and richest of the states in the union within a decade — a result which would have surprised the Spaniards and other early settlers who found its swamps and insects so inhospitable.

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Many of the visitors are delegates to conventions. The Hyatt in Orlando does 40 per cent of its business from conferences and is aiming for 50 per cent. Miami Beach staged 600 conventions last year and has a \$64m convention centre that could accommodate, for example, all the 20,000 delegates to the American College of Surgeons Convention in one place at the same time.

Mr Brock sees immense business growth in South America for Florida's economy, as do many other businessmen in the state. The transport system and the development plans now under way certainly make Florida a state from which the business executive can travel easily to almost any point on the globe.

Any judgement regarding which of the leading airlines offers the best service must be highly subjective. Having flown recently on each of the three, I would rank Delta clearly in first place, but, fierce is the competition, the traveller is mostly well served whichever he chooses.

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**Big plans to expand transport**

by Frank Vogl

Communications within Florida by road, rail and air, and transportation from Florida to the rest of the United States and to South America, are outstandingly good. The state has almost 1,000 miles of high quality motorways. It has 14 deep-water ports, it is served by an extensive rail system and it boasts many good airports. Miami airport is one of the busiest in the United States and Tampa's airport is among the most modern in the world.

Big expansion programmes are either underway or being planned in almost all of the state's transportation areas and perhaps these more than anything else attest to the real confidence about the future growth of the state's commercial base which now exists in Florida.

For example, Mr Frank Lewis of the Tampa Port Authority outlined to me a vast expansion programme for the port, which has seen an increase of 365 per cent in tonnage handled in the past 15 years. This port has just started a six-year programme, costing about \$120m, to deepen the channels to 45ft from 34ft.

It is likely to have a new roll-on, roll-off pier completed by the end of this year. Plans are set for new facilities for Tampa's fishing fleet; work is about to start on a \$23m dry dock with an expanded wet dock for repairs in prospect; and land reclamation plans are set to expand the port's general cargo facilities, which already include two modern 100,000 sq ft areas.

Tampa handles more tonnage than any other port in the state (41 million tons in 1975, which was 56 per cent of the total for Florida ports). It is eighth in size in the United States and fourth for export business. It is bound to grow rapidly, especially as it is the closest United States port to the Panama Canal and because of the potential expansion of trade between the United States and South America.

**World's largest cruise ship port**

Jacksonville's port is the second largest in Florida and also has plans for great expansion. It is already the most important container cargo port in the state. Port Everglades, which like the Seminole has substantial expansion plans, is the leading tanker port, and Miami boasts of being the largest cruise ship port in the world, having handled more than a million passengers in the past fiscal year.

Competition between the airlines serving Florida is intense. On the east coast routes the leading rivals are National, Delta and Eastern, and National has a slight advantage because of its international route network, notably its direct London-to-Miami schedule. Mr J. Dan Brock, National's marketing vice-president, says that Miami is going to grow rapidly as a gateway for travellers from the United States and South America to Europe. His company and the state's airport authorities are evidently planning for such an expansion, and National has already applied for more routes to Europe.

Mr Brock notes that National is smaller than Delta and Eastern. "So we feel we have to move faster and offer better service," he says. Among special services provided by National are its packaged linking foreigners to cruise holidays by way of the port of Miami.

National and Delta have modern fleets serving the main airports of the state, and some of the remoter parts are served by a couple of small local airlines. Florida has 350 airports, and 24 of these have scheduled airline services.

Any judgement regarding which of the leading airlines offers the best service must be highly subjective. Having flown recently on each of the three, I would rank Delta clearly in first place, but, fierce is the competition, the traveller is mostly well served whichever he chooses.

Mr Brock sees immense business growth in South America for Florida's economy, as do many other businessmen in the state. The transport system and the development plans now under way certainly make Florida a state from which the business executive can travel easily to almost any point on the globe.

## Playground of the masses

by Sydney Paulden

From being the playground of the wealthy, Florida is now in the mass entertainment market and could well become the next important area for exploitation by European package tour operators.

Hotels in Florida used to open for the four winter months, to accommodate the well-funded globetrotters in search of guaranteed sunshine, but now more than 27 million tourists visit the state annually. In some areas the seasonal fluctuation has all but disappeared, with only May and September lying low on the graphs.

The biggest single cause of the change was the opening in 1971 of Disney World at Orlando (not to be confused with the original Disneyland in California). The 27,000-acre site coped with as many as 60,000 visitors a day during school holidays and has its own hotels, including one with a monorail.

Other hotels, motels and tourist attractions are springing up alongside Disney World. The Orlando Hyatt Hotel World, with its no-key electronic bedroom locks and its 10 swimming pools, illustrates how the big hotel and entertainment groups are cashing in on the Disney attraction. Dotted round the hitherto unremarkable Orlando landscape are a Hilton, a Sheraton, the Stars they spent money out of Orlando, Miami Beach is

Hall of Fame Waxworks, the Mystery Fun House, the Circus World and the Sea World. One hour's drive to the east, the John F. Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral has 16,000 visitors a day to view the rockets, space capsules and launching pads made familiar by television.

Orlando has been very much a national playground for motorists from other states. Now, however, Orlando airport has been granted international status and is preparing to welcome direct flights from overseas.

The second factor to have an impact on Florida tourism was the energy crisis of 1973. Petrol costs rose and a \$5 mph speed limit was placed on all roads in the United States. That effectively cut the southern and most traditional tourist area of Florida off from many who drove down to Disney World. Fewer and fewer did the extra 400 miles to Miami. The result is that although the figures for the state showed an increase in 1975 over 1974, from 25 million tourists to 27 million, who spent \$9,100m instead of \$6,700m, Miami and Miami Beach recorded a decline in their number of visitors in both those years.

The picture for the southern tip of Florida is not all gloom. There has been an upsurge in the number of visitors flying into Miami from Latin American countries. They came in hundreds of thousands rather than in millions, but

in spite of the anxiety about competition from

other travel agencies, the State of Florida European Office offers complete information on the excellent potential for investment in the U.S.A. Our services are professional and free-of-charge.

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مكتبة المأتم

**Big plans  
expand  
transpor**

by Frank Vogl

**communications**  
**Florida by road, rail**  
**and transportation**  
**to the rest of**  
**United States and to**  
**the world.**

**��. The state has**

**100,000 miles of high**

**motorways. It has**

**extensive rail sys**

**tems. Miami airport**

**is the busiest in the**

**United States. Among**

**the most**

**of the world.**

**Frank Vogl, United States Economics Correspondent, discusses the prospects**

**for business and describes three of its aspects.**

**Uncertainties dominated the**

**outlook for Florida's economy**

**as 1977 started. Cold weather**

**did some damage to the**

**tourist industry, seriously**

**affecting agriculture and**

**leaving the federal govern**

**ment to declare the state a**

**"disaster area". There was**

**also a strike at some Miami**

**beach hotels.**

**The worst of the cold**

**weather was seen on Janu**

**ary 20 and there are indica**

**tions that the gloomiest pre**

**dictions made at the time**

**were unjustified. The huge**

**record output seems in pro**

**pect.**

**The vegetable crops in**

**south Florida were seriously**

**hit but new planting swiftly**

**started and there is a danger**

**now of an over-abundance of**

**output in the state in the**

**spring. "We are counting**

**on heavy West European**

**tourist year this year, in de**

**pressed condition.**

**BANKING**

**I returned from Miami, by the fact that their total**

**deposits, at \$25,723m for**

**1976, in my drab office in**

**Washington, considering**

**becoming a Floridian**

**banker—it seemed such a**

**comfortable way to make a**

**lot of money.**

**Most of the bankers in**

**the state have ample time**

**to play golf, enjoy the**

**beaches and the sunshine**

**grow by leaps and bounds.**

**The maintenance of laws**

**that restrict competition**

**and the move to raise**

**an explosion enjoyed by Florida**

**(a 40 per cent gain in the**

**10 years to 1974) have pro**

**duced this situation.**

**The state has 748 com**

**mercial banks. Most of them**

**are small and enjoy almost**

**a complete monopoly in the**

**communities they serve. The**

**total deposits at all these**

**banks on June 30, 1976, was**

**\$24,600m, according to the**

**Florida Bankers' Association.**

**Only two bank holding com**

**panies had deposits of more**

**than \$2,000m (Southeast**

**Banking Corporation and**

**Barnett Banks of Florida)**

**and only five others had**

**total deposits of more than**

**\$1,000m (Sun Banks of**

**Florida, Flagship Banks,**

**National Banks, Atlantic**

**Bank Corporation and**

**Fifth Financial Corpora**

**tion).**

**Branch banking was out**

**lawed until the start of this**

**year. The change in the law**

**allows some way toward**

**allowing a bank to open a**

**great number of branches by**

**limiting it to the opening of**

**no more than two**

**branches a year in a Florida**

**county. Moreover, foreign**

**banks are not allowed to**

**establish offices in the state.**

**Few of the banks can be**

**named aggressive. Most of**

**the bankers are content to**

**concentrate on basic retail**

**business, leasing the**

**nation's largest banks to**

**serve the commercial finan**

**cials needs of the state's lar**

**ger business enterprises.**

**There are changes in the**

**offing which might provide**

**a rude awakening for some**

**of the state's most lethargic**

**banks—but it will be many**

**years before the competitive**

**climate reaches the pitch**

**now evident, for example, in**

**California.**

**Most growth**

**dates**

**from the 1950s**

**Mr Joel Wells, Jr, pres**

**ident of the Sun Bank in**

**Orlando, says that banking**

**in Florida is young, as is**

**the whole of the state's gen**

**eral economic development.**

**Most of the banks have**

**been established in the past**

**40 years and few of them**

**showed any significant**

**growth until the 1950s.**

**Bank holding companies**

**really got off the ground in**

**the 1960s by means of affil**

**iations between numerous**

**individual banks. The his**

**tory of the Sun Bank illus**

**trates banking progress in**

**the state. The First National**

**Bank of Orlando was**

**organized in 1934 and its**

**assets totalled \$35m by**

**1951. A holding company**

**was formed in 1967 to bring**

**together just a few affil**

**iated institutions that had**

**combined assets of about**

**\$150m.**

**By the end of 1975 Sun**

**Bank of Florida had 39**

**subsidiary-commercial banks**

**and two non-bank subsid**

**iaries, with total group assets**

**of \$17,000m. The subsidi**

**aries mostly have their**

**own individual identities**

**and their own directors and**

**the group lacks that tight**

**consolidation of activities**

**that would arise if its**

**subsidiaries became branches of**

**a central bank.**

**Mr Alexander Wolfe,**

**chairman of the Southeast**

**group's largest bank, the**

**Southeast First National**

**Bank of Miami, says that**

**the affiliate system can give**

**a banking group a stronger**

**position in the retail market**

**and permit greater coverage**

**of the whole state, although**

**he does note that consolid**

**ation would produce a**

**stronger capital base and**

**possibly a more efficient**

**management.**

**Banks like Sun, Barnett,**

**Flagship and a few others**

**are moving into the whole**

**scale banking business and**

**becoming involved in more**

**direct and complex money**

**management operations.**

**The greatest competition**

**the commercial bankers face**

**in Florida is from the**

**affiliates of savings and loans**

**associations. They can, and do, have**

**branches, and they have**

**managed to convince the**

**commercial banks in such a**

## Deposits that enrich the land

by Susan Allen

There is more to the sun-shine state than sun. More to Florida land than golden beaches. Underneath Bone Valley in west central Florida lies one of the world's greatest phosphate deposits, a rich resource that has made the state a leading producer of commercial fertilizers.

The Jay oilfield, discovered in 1970 in north-west Florida, was the largest on-shore discovery in 20 years in the United States. Florida is the ninth-ranking mineral producer in the nation, with a production value of more than \$1,700m last year.

Florida produces about 40 million short tons of phosphate a year, 30 per cent of world exports, and a third of world production. It exports about 14 million tons a year—second only to Morocco. Next to tourism, the phosphates industry is the state's biggest income earner, contributing about 61,000 jobs and \$1,500m a year in gross output.

International Minerals and Chemicals Corporation, with three open pit mines and plants in Florida, is the largest independent producer of phosphate in the world and accounts for about 30 per cent of state production.

The phosphates industry experienced unprecedented growth from 1973 to 1975, when world food stocks were at their lowest level and farmers the world over clamoured for more fertilizer to boost food production. Re-

flecting that boom, IMC total and casing head gas sales of its agricultural products—phosphate rock, fertilizers and phosphate chemicals—jumped from \$242.3m in the fiscal year 1973 to record sales of \$748.6m in the fiscal year 1975.\*

The United States industry started up new fertilizer plants worth \$4,000m to meet demand, the pipelines filled and prices came down. IMC explained to shareholders:

"The economics of the business do not permit small units or gradual expansion... its sales of agricultural products dropped to \$653.6m in fiscal year 1976."

There was also more market competition in the world market. Florida and Morocco provide about two thirds of world exports, but Morocco, with higher-grade ore and lower transport costs to Europe, increased its rock exports to half of the western European market.

But world demand for fertilizer is predicted to grow about 5 per cent a year. The phosphates industry has settled down to steady growth rather than rapid earnings.

The Jay field discovered by Humble Oil and Louisiana Land and Exploration in north-west Florida was largely responsible for a sixfold rise in Florida oil production from 25 million barrels cumulative through 1971, to more than 152 million barrels by the end of 1975.

The Jay field produced 104 million barrels of the very high grade limestone is mined in Florida; also

\* July 1974—June 1975

### **Oil scouts thick on ground**

There have been no discoveries since 1974 in spite of increased exploration in the Sunniland Trend of south Florida, the first field discovered in the state. Drilling and completion costs generally have trebled in recent years, and in Florida it is necessary to drill deep.

The forest industry harvests about 300 million cu ft of products a year, about two thirds of it for pulp. Retail value is nearly \$2,000m annually. Pulp, lumber and gum naval stores, veneer, posts and fuelwood are the primary products and there are hundreds of secondary wood-using industries.

Replacement of cut timber is standard practice after a study several years ago determined that more pine timber was cut than was grown from 1949 to 1958.

The Forestry Division surveys the state's timber every two years to calculate the "commodity drain".

Growth has exceeded harvest for several years at about 50 per cent. But foresters say that nearly half of commercial forest land could grow more than double the present volume; more intensive forest management and cropping are needed to keep up with constantly rising demand for wood products.

The industry has cut waste by using more bark, sawdust and shavings, particularly for industrial fuels, particle board, fibre products and enough.

Exploitation of natural resources takes its toll. There has been widespread concern over non-renewable phosphate reserves, strip mining excess water used to break up ore, clay slime wastes, radioactive emissions from the uranium in phosphate deposits and fluoride and rock dust air pollution from processing.

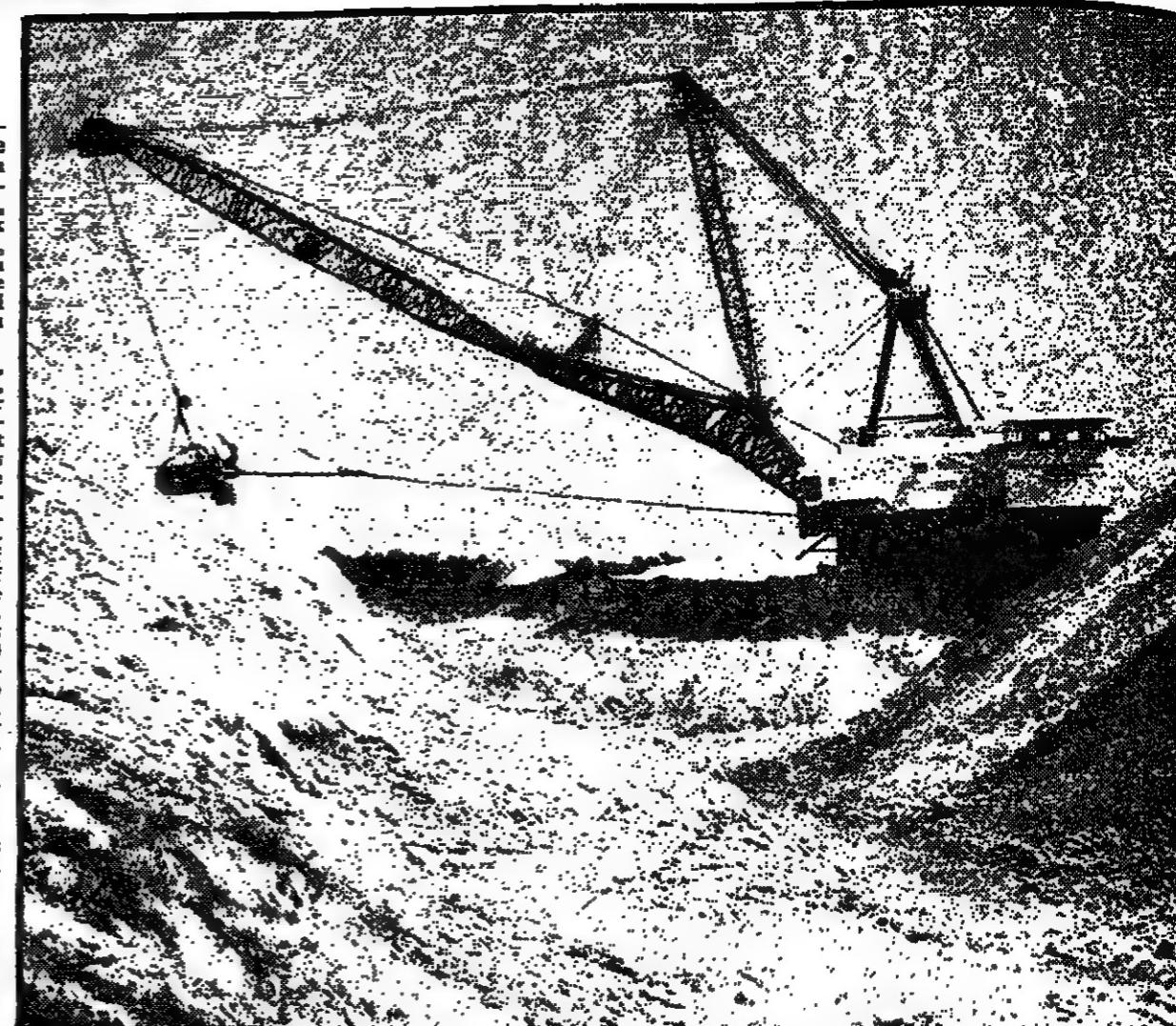
Beginning in the 1960s, Florida enacted air pollution, land reclamation and other environmental laws. Intensive industry, government and private research is under way to develop more conservative and safer mining and processing methods.

Florida levied a severance tax of 5 per cent of mineral production value, of which half goes back to the industry for reclamation.

The phosphate industry has mined more than 90,000 acres. From 1965-75 it reclaimed 30,000 acres of strip-mined land at a cost of \$10m and spent \$158.5m on air and water control and conservation.

Reclamation continues at sometimes more than the required acre for an acre mined. The industry points out that it has achieved full or more than full compliance with environmental regulations.

But apparently the public is still concerned about the industry's impact on the environment; perhaps it feels that additional laws are required or that industry is not putting environmental practices into effect fast enough.



A dragline strips off earth and rocks to reach phosphate ore in west central Florida.

## Citrus assets frozen

A Florida farmer told me in January that the citrus harvest would be so big this season that "there will be a problem to get all of it picked, packed, processed and sold at a profit".

That was before a killer frost hit the sunshine state in late January, severely damaging the central Florida crop and nearly wiping out the vegetable crops in south Florida.

Governor Reuben Askew declared the state a disaster area, mostly to help migrant pickers who will be out of work for two months.

Florida citrus normally earns about \$2,000m in retail value; it was estimated the frost would affect the orange crop to the extent of about \$90m. Florida is the nation's largest citrus producer and provides 55 per cent of the world's grapefruit and 20 per cent of oranges.

In contrast to the present situation, Florida growers are usually worried about citrus over-supply. They have developed a highly organized marketing, promotion and research programme to keep the consumer demand up with supply. The praises of Florida orange juice are sung by Anita Bryant and Bing Crosby on television advertisements.

Frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ) was the development that vaulted Florida citrus into prominence after the last war.

"The nation embraced the product like nothing since Henry Ford's Model T," an industry historian said.

Publicity pitched like "Breakfast without orange juice is like a day without sunshine" and for calorific counters, "Shape up with grapefruit from Florida"—together with a high-quality product—turned citrus into "Florida gold".

Orange juice sales alone reached a record \$1,000m last year.

After putting orange juice on every American table, marketing efforts turned towards other households around the world. Juice and fresh grapefruit sales dominate the Florida exports.

"We are the world leaders in juice sales, and we make more of it because we have more oranges," Mr Jack Parajon, a rancher and veterinarian in Cuba before Fidel Castro took over, is a marketing specialist with the state Department of Agriculture.

Canada, Japan, West Germany, France, Britain and Sweden are the leading overseas customers for Florida citrus. Fresh fruit is harder to sell in Europe because of competition from Mediterranean growers who are closer to European markets, but the Japanese demand for grapefruit,

Florida is the nation's third-ranking thoroughbred-raising state after Kentucky and California. At Ocala, in central Florida, thoroughbred sales bring an average of about \$6,500 a head. Some horses sell for millions of dollars if the racing blood-line is aristocratic enough.

Farmers are getting squeezed by higher land prices and taxes, higher operating costs and stricter environmental controls.

Although total acreage has changed little in the past 20 years, production has grown steadily in volume and value. In 1975 the value of Florida vegetables to the farmer was more than \$485m; the retail value was more than \$1,000m. The frost will cut volume and cost will cut volume, I think we will have a clean environment but no food."

Farming is increasingly becoming agribusiness, the domain of big companies. Between 1960 and 1970 the number of farm employees dropped from more than 300,000 to about 70,000. A University of Florida report on the future of farming predicts the need for a 35 per cent rise in production to offset loss of land to urbanization.

More growth on less land will require more efficiency, more irrigation, double cropping and a whole new generation of farm technology, it says. Agricultural output will have to rise from the present \$2,400m to \$3,300m.

The recent freezing weather was nothing new to Florida—there was a bad freeze in 1962 and a twin freeze in the 1950s nearly decimated the infant citrus industry. But cold weather is less likely in Florida than elsewhere in the United States. The annual average temperature is a mild 70°F.

As the southernmost state, Florida peninsula dabbles its big toe into the South Atlantic where the warm Gulf Stream and eastward breezes keep it warm in winter. Sea breezes and abundant rain moderate summer temperatures.

Florida is flat, which allows the land to soak up rainfall and replenish the extensive underground aquifer. Average rainfall is 53in a year—ensuring that Florida springs and reservoirs can supply about 10 times more than the daily consumption of water.

Florida can grow fresh food when other states are in the grip of winter. Mr Wade Meredith, manager of the State Farmers' Market near Homestead in the southern vegetable bowl, says: "The land down here is not worth a damn. It's coral rock and it takes a lot of tilling. But we can plant tomatoes every 20 days from August to May or June. Climate makes the crops here."

S.A.

## Learning from the past

continued from page 1

Beach against topless bathing.

Floridians are optimistic, however, and hope and expect that the weather will return to normal, that the boom will resume and that the girls will defy the city fathers in sufficient numbers to overthrow their ruling. After all, that is the way victory was won at St Tropez and in California.

Many of them also hope that they will persuade the Governor and legislature that gambling should be allowed. Atlantic City has done it, so why not Miami? The buildings are there, the tourists come, anyway (Florida would not have to implement immigration or tem-

porary residents, are now quite used to the Spanish flavour of the place. It is part of its charm. The northerners have come to a state where they can live in the sun and go boating every weekend, and the Cubans are no sort of hindrance.

The coasts are lined with marinas, with thousands of sailing boats and motorboats tied up on gunwales to gondolas. The ropes are endlessly coiled around their hollow aluminium masts, sounding exactly like cow-bells in the Pyrenees, and listening to them one must conclude that as states of mind go, Florida is exceedingly pleasant, and the twenty-first century need not be so bad after all.

Northern, whether per-

sonal or political, are now

more numerous than ever.

They are taking over

the Cuban areas of the

state, and the Cubans

are leaving, and the

northerners are staying.

It is a remarkable

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## SCOTTISH LABOUR BAFFLED

The plight of the Labour Party in Scotland has become one of the critical factors in British politics. It has been intensified by the devolution deadlock at Westminster, but it has not been caused by it. Indeed, the immediate effects of that failure have not been dramatic. There has not been the explosion of wrath in Scotland that had been feared. It does not hold pride of place in the long list of Scottish grievances. Labour MPs and candidates do not as yet find themselves besieged with complaints at the periphery of Parliament. There has been something of a middle-class reaction against the plan for a Scottish assembly, and a good many others are bored by the whole question. But the Government's inability to deliver its commitment is damaging to the party for a number of reasons.

In the first place, its evident confusion on devolution magnifies the impression of a general malaise. Both the confusion and the malaise were obvious at the party conference which ended yesterday in Perth. The Labour Party in Scotland has never been wholehearted in its commitment to devolution. There have been some genuine enthusiasts in its ranks, a large number who have been convinced of the political necessity, and a minority of consistent opponents. The agreement that was reached at Troon a year ago was very much a political compromise. That compromise still stands. Attachment to the principle of devolution was proclaimed and accepted at Perth. But there was neither the passion of conviction nor much idea how to bring it about.

## HOW MANY DOCTORS FOR THE EIGHTIES?

For a dozen years it has been a truism of medical politics that Britain suffers from a shortage of doctors. Policies adopted in the mid 1960s set out to increase the output of medical schools from about 2,500 to 4,000 by 1980. The need was scarcely disputed until last summer when the junior hospital doctors, who would suffer sooner from a cut, began to express alarm. At last week's special assembly of the British Medical Association the fear of over-production was one of the chief items of concern. The Royal Commission on Manpower reported in 1965, just as the birthrate stopped rising and began to fall with obvious consequences for the level of future need. In 1975, restraints on public spending brought the expansion of the health services almost to a standstill. Fewer patients than expected, and fewer resources to treat them with strongly imply less work than expected for doctors.

There is a sense in which it would be scarcely possible to produce too many doctors. Finance apart, the potential demand for their services is virtually limitless in Britain, let alone beyond. The skill is one which would enrich a candidate's qualifications for many other kinds of work, even if too few places existed in medicine itself. But it costs the state £28,000 to train a doctor; public thrift implies that output should be measured by the prospective needs of the health services. As for the profession, it does not wish to see its stock-in-trade devalued, nor its members forced into other kinds of work.

Yet there are still many parts of the country where consultants complain that it is almost impos-

sible to find adequately qualified candidates for hospital posts. In general practice the position is probably worse. The rate of medical emigration is still a matter of concern, and the service is heavily dependent on doctors from abroad who may well not be available in such numbers in future. The Wilkin report of 1957, which proposed a cut in the number of medical students on the strength of a temporary dip in the birthrate and professional fears that doctors would become two a penny, is a warning of the miscalculations that can occur in this branch of prophecy. The Royal Commission which set that error right commented: "The further ahead one attempts to look, the more arbitrary and unrealistic is any attempt to estimate the numbers of doctors needed in any particular branch of the service". It takes seven years to train a doctor, so that decisions taken today relate to 1984 and after.

Just now the prospects are particularly confusing. The birthrate has been falling for twelve years, but the demographers continue to predict a sharp increase in the next few years. The prospects for spending on health may be transformed by North Sea oil revenues. The actual growth in student numbers has already fallen behind what was planned. New arrangements with the EEC will increase the movement of doctors between Britain and countries where medical men have the liveliest fears of over-manning. The rising number of women doctors (who may or may not give up practice for some years to look after their families) and new pension arrangements

(which may affect the average retiring age) compound the uncertainties.

The BMA is right to draw attention to the dangers of over-production. It takes time to shift a political cliche, and the belief that a growth in numbers can only be good deserves re-examination. It is important to avoid the sudden reversal that has been inflicted on the teaching profession, partly through a political timidity about acting on the surges until too late. The BMA urges the present Royal Commission on the NHS to run out an emergency report, and recommends that a special standing body should keep the question under annual review. That may be making too much of a problem which, except at moments of exceptional uncertainty like the present, does not change sharply from year to year. But the need for a close watch in the next two or three years is plain enough.

In the meantime, one important cause of the junior doctors' fears about their career prospects needs to be tackled in quite a different way: the fact that doctors with years of experience are kept "in training" for a number of secure consultant posts, too small to accommodate them all, keeps them on tenterhooks. The BMA assembly showed again last week that a "sub-consultant" grade, whatever its merits as a solution to the problem, is simply not acceptable to the profession. The remedy must therefore be to implement the policy agreed in 1969 for increasing the relative number of consultant posts. So far since then the ratio has actually worsened.

**Discoveries in Syria**  
From Professor Abraham Malamat and Professor Ullendorff, FBA  
Sir, I should like to express my positive aspect of it. Tears, whether of mourning, remorse, anger or despair, can be the beginning of reparation and renewal and lead towards a developing core of individual endeavour. It is true that in pathological depression a halt to endeavour has come about, which many need skilled psychotherapeutic aid to bring its positive value into recognition. Drugs certainly alleviate pain, but also rob the sufferer of a unique opportunity of personal development.

Far be it from me to deny relief to the suffering, but I am most apprehensive of the attitude expressed by Dr Sargent that there are no other values in life other than comfort and complaisance, and the elimination of suffering. With access to tricyclic drugs and the like, perhaps there would never have been a crucifixion, or a resurrection.

Yours faithfully,  
BETH MILLER.  
49 New Cavendish Street, W1.  
March 3.

## Battered babies

From Dr P. J. Fawcett-Corbett  
Sir, As a general practitioner for over 30 years and a magistrate for over 12 years, I cannot emphasize too strongly, the dangers of returning a battered baby to the home where the battering took place. The only exception that could be made is when the proud batterer has left the home permanently.

I would ask all Crown Court judges and magistrates, who hear these difficult cases, to withhold the blandishments of counsel and solicitors and keep these unfortunate children in care.

Yours faithfully,  
ABRAHAM MALAMAT,  
Professor of Biblical History,  
Hebrew University of Jerusalem,  
EDWARD ULLENDORFF,  
Meadowlands,  
Havant,  
Hampshire,  
March 6.

## Alleviating depression

From Mrs Beth Miller  
Sir, I feel I cannot let Dr Sargent's article on drugs and depression (March 5) pass without comment, as it represents an attitude which is so 'one-sided' in its denial of psychopathology and analysis in the treatment of psychiatric conditions, in this case specifically depression.

## Police and a right to strike

From Dr Robert Reiner

Sir, Your editorial on "Unrest in the Police Force" (March 2, 1977) argues that the police ought not to be permitted the rights of organization or strike action. This prohibition is said to be justified because "in the absence of the police, lawlessness and anarchy would dominate". In return for relinquishing these rights, the police are to be treated as a "special case" with the highest priority in claims for better pay and conditions.

How are the police to be guaranteed these rewards? Independent trade unionism is the normal means by which workers attempt to ensure that they have some power to protect their interests. The present discontent over police pay bears out the importance of this. When I conducted research on police attitudes to unionism in 1973, I found that only 20 per cent of uniformed constables supported the right to strike, though about half favoured full union status in other respects. The strike weapon was generally eschewed because of a notion of public responsibility, together with the belief that the crucial social role of the police guaranteed them favourable treatment. (See my article "Reds in Blue?" New Statesman, October 7, 1976.) The high proportions supporting the right to strike in recent polls suggest a growing realisation that in the absence of such powers the police are in the eye of the authorities. Without union organization they cannot comment in advance on the supposed "voluntary" pay policy which they are forced to accept.

That is a gloomy prospect for a party whose morale is low anyway. There was no vitality in the party on parade at Perth. In that too the conference was faithfully reflecting conditions in the constituencies. Labour's organization is crumbling. Its appeal rests upon habit, its strength upon the continued loyalty of the established trade union movement. That may be enough to save it, if not from the humiliation expected at the Scottish district elections in May, at any rate from too severe a fate in the general election. But it could hardly be more vulnerable. The radical tradition in west central Scotland is the politics of people looking for a sign of hope to relieve their dreary living conditions. The Labour Party in Scotland is not much of a symbol of hope today.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Army violence in Ulster

From Mr N. D. Ross

Sir, Last week the Opposition spokesman on Northern Ireland criticized the BEC for publishing allegations of brutality about the RUC. Roy Mason has been no less unequivocal in his reactions to revelations of this sort. If I believed that these two men, together with the security forces, were involved in some calculated conspiracy for the sort alleged today by The Sunday Times I would not worry so much. But I fear they are being deceived.

Those of us who have worked regularly as journalists in Northern Ireland know that civilians are regularly maltreated by some members of the security forces. We rarely say so, and when we do we are denounced as dupes of IRA pragmatists.

Most soldiers in Northern Ireland act with exemplary diligence and reverence given the circumstances in which they operate. I could not even begin to do their job so courageously. But I believe that those who misbehave imperil a government strategy that would be difficult enough if all our troops were angels. And I believe that in failing to perceive what is happening the British authorities are failing to understand a most important factor in the Ulster tragedy.

What often happens is this. In some regiments individual soldiers or individual platoons will use unnecessary force during screening

operations (arresting and carrying people off more or less at random to check whether or not they are on the Wanted List). In case of complaint (or in case of investigation by the SIB or RUC) the NCOs will cover up for their men, and the junior officers for their NCOs. Middle-rank and senior officers (let alone Government and Opposition spokesmen) will never know what is going on and, because of their ignorance they will be all the more indignant about any allegations of army brutality. One senior officer once told me that a young man who had needed hospital treatment after screening had been "hit by a swinging door", and I think he sincerely believed it.

I fear that he was simply misguided. I do not believe that Messrs Neave and Mason are involved in a "cover up", but that they too are similarly misinformed. Press "restraint" will not cure that. Indeed it will not cure anything. Allegations about maltreatment are already common knowledge in the communities so affected by them. It is only the relatively immune Ulster middle classes and the bulk of the public on the British mainland who are kept in ignorance when we journalists are silent. They, and the politicians.

Yours sincerely,  
NICK ROSS,  
38 Willes Road, NW3.  
March 13.

## The future of Mentmore

From Lord Eccles

Sir, I could not take part in the debate on Mentmore Towers but I see from the Official Report and the correspondence in your columns that too much is expected of the Land Fund. The Fund is only a bank entry. When it is debited with the cost of a purchase only then the cash has to be found out of the public purse. This means, when Mr Beeley is running a huge deficit, adding to the Borrowing Requirement. Comparison becomes inevitable between a grant to Mentmore Towers and other claims on the Exchequer.

Looking only at the claims in the field of the arts how high is the priority of Mentmore Towers? The arts are very hard hit by inflation. Poverty and unemployment are growing among actors, musicians, painters and writers. The Victoria and Albert has been forced to close its Circulation Department and there is talk of the museum shutting one day a week. The difficulties in the regions are worse, especially among public libraries. So, if there were more public money available, where should it go?

In my view the Chancellor of the Exchequer should resist the conservation lobby for Mentmore until he can provide enough money for the buildings, collections and living arts for which he is directly or indirectly responsible.

The landlord stands condemned who neglects the property he already owns in order to buy more art and crafts receive more support all round, preferably through tax reliefs to individual supporters rather than more Exchequer grants.

But if one way or another the Government cannot make any more money available for the arts then they should concentrate upon maintaining the highest standards among those whom they subsidize already. I am, yours truly,  
ECCLES.

House of Lords,  
March 13.

## Freedom in science

From Professor M. R. Pollock, FRS

Sir, I am sure that most scientists will be grateful to Dr Stoker (March 3) for underlining, as Foreign Secretary of the Royal Society, the support which it provides for our colleagues suffering from infringement of internationally recognized human rights. It is also helpful to be reminded of the stand on this issue taken by Lord Todd last November. I believe this may be the first time—certainly in recent years—that the President of the Royal Society has publicly emphasized this particular problem which, in the opinion of many of us, has become more evident during the past 20 or 30 years.

Those of us who contributed directly to the preparation of the report on scientific freedom referred to, may thus legitimately feel that their views have powerful support at a very appropriate moment.

There is, however, one matter (with important practical implications) where our conclusions appear to be at variance with those of Lord Todd and others.

According to Dr Stoker, Lord Todd points out quite correctly that "persecution . . . of individual colleagues . . . is made neither better nor worse by the fact that the victim is a scientist rather than any other member of the community". (Indeed our report emphasizes this in section 3.6.1/2.) But he then goes on to state that "a scientist should therefore protest, not qua scientist, but rather as 'a citizen'" and that the Royal Society "has no special position or qualification in the human rights issue".

Finally, you argue correctly that police discontent is not only over pay but derives from a more fundamental sense of the lack of support they receive from society. In the United States such a feeling of frustration has inclined police associations in the past decade to become increasingly involved in militant political activity of an extreme right wing character. The unionization of the police force, as Scandinavian and West German experience suggests, can be a factor countering this sort of tendency for policemen to be pushed towards the "radical right". The essence of the British police tradition is the concern of the policeman as an ordinary citizen, carrying out a specialized task, but not separated from the rest of the community. I would suggest this implies that they should not be deprived of the same rights of free association and independent action as other workers. Responsibility cannot be ensured by legislation and externally imposed discipline.

Yours sincerely,  
ROBERT D. R.  
Lecturer in Sociology,  
University of Bristol,  
12 Woodland Road,  
Bristol.  
March 2.

## University fees

From the Principal of King's College London

Sir, It would be a pity if the antics of some students at the London School of Economics and elsewhere were to have the usual effect of so forfeiting public sympathy as to obscure the serious hardship which those students already in college and not receiving a grant will face next year.

There is room for different opinions about the level at which tuition fees for higher education should be pitched, and also about whether overseas students should pay higher fees than UK students. There is a case for charging no tuition fees at all; there are arguments in favour of the level of fees now proposed by the Government for next year; and there are other variations which are perfectly defensible. But there is surely no case at all for increasing the fees of UK students who are paying for themselves and who have already embarked on their course by between 175 per cent and 320 per cent overnight.

This college alone I expect to have about 200 undergraduates next year who are paying their own fees and who embarked on a three-year course in either 1975 or 1976 when the tuition fees were in the region of £140 a year or £160 when they were mostly about £180. They now find that in order to complete the course they have to pay £500 a year for the last one or two years of it. UK self-financing postgraduates are even more hard hit, their fees having gone up to £750.

Any commercial institution which tried to do anything like this with its prices would be subjected to all the rigours of the machinery which the Government has created to protect the consumer. Nor would there be any shortage of volunteers in Parliament to say just what they thought of such behaviour. We all know that Governments do not recognize themselves as being subject to the same standards, either legal or moral, as they impose on others. But surely in this case even the Government has gone beyond any acceptable standard of conduct. Yours faithfully,  
EDWARD ULLENDORFF,  
Meadowlands,  
Havant,  
Hampshire.  
March 6.

by the International Commission on North Atlantic Fisheries. Seals consume millions of tons of codfish and from March 1976 the Canadian government has paid a bounty on seals culled.

As regards the culling by clubbing, investigation into alternative methods by the American and Canadian governments' veterinary experts has satisfied them that a blow from a club is the most humane method of killing as it causes instantaneous death. Sealing ships carry a Government Inspector and if the culling regulations are not adhered to the skipper is subject to a fine or imprisonment and the vessel with catch may be confiscated.

If the commercial seal hunts were discontinued, the Canadian government would be compelled, in any case to control the herds in order to protect the Newfoundland fishing industry.

Yours faithfully,

SIMON REISS,  
Chairman of the Council,  
British Fur Trade Association,  
68 Upper Thames Street, EC4.  
March 8.

Inside Tibet

From Mr Lobsang N. Aye

Sir, With reference to your article entitled "Inside Tibet" (The Times Diary, February 22, 1977) I, as a Tibetan having been forced to leave my country at the age of 11 as a result of the Chinese invasion in 1959, wish to raise one simple question.

Would anyone in his right frame of mind willingly exchange his fundamental human rights and the freedom of the country he loves for the so-called modern amenities which Mr F. Greene and his family proudly claimed to have seen being introduced in Tibet today? Definitely, not its native Tibetans!

We not only have survived but have led a very contented life for centuries without the aid of technology and would happily have continued living peacefully had the Chinese not intruded in our affairs and caused irreparable damage both mentally and physically to a peace-loving people.

As for the preservation of the Dalai Lama's fabulously decorated

staterooms and throne" as well as the world-famous monasteries and the temples, they serve a dual purpose:-

Firstly, to endeavour to give the false impression to the very few carefully selected visitors, like the Greene family that contrary to the personal experiences of the thousands of Tibetans who are now living in exile, the Chinese authorities still let the Tibetans continue in their religious and cultural practices.

Second and most importantly, they are preserved as major propaganda materials by implementing them as concrete proofs to support the constant accusations made by the Chinese of our own way of life which we led in the past and considered by them a "feudal system".

I sincerely hope that you will let the readers have the opportunity to see the other side of the coin by publishing this letter.

Yours faithfully,  
LOBSANG N. AYE,  
135 Dawes Road, SW6.

## The Times' reappears

From The Rev P. J. Collingwood  
Sir, To open The Times after six days of lamentable silence and find a continuation of the correspondence on "What Keats drank" reminds me of the story of the Cambridge professor who, during the war, reluctantly interrupted a series of lectures to join the army and, having stopped in mid-sentence, resumed his work after demobilisation several years later by carrying on from the comma, prefaced by the remark "As I was saying . . .". Your readers may care to celebrate the welcome reappearance of The Times by recalling other instances of enforced interruption later turned to anecdotal advantage.

Yours faithfully,  
P. J. COLLINGWOOD,  
Sunnydale,  
New Street,  
Torquay, Devon.

March 11.

From Mrs Pamela Lewis

Sir, To paraphrase Louisa Alcott—"Breakfast isn't breakfast without 'The Times' propped up against a milk bottle", grumbled . . .

Yours truly,  
PAMELA L. LEWIS,  
17 Langton Avenue,  
Wherstone, N20.

March 11.

From Mr James Flaming

S





## A Times Profile

**Michael Foot**

### How the left found its conscience

When *Tribune* reached its fortieth birthday a few weeks ago, James Callaghan, the editor and the rest of the staff to Number 10. They were presented with a birthday cake and as Clements dutifully raised the knife, a voice was heard from the back of the throng: "Another bloody cut!" said Michael Foot.

It was a typical note of irony. Michael Foot, deputy leader of the Labour Party, second man in the Government and former editor of *Tribune*, has far too much literary sensitivity to forget the paradoxes in his situation.

There are flickers of the same tone in his public appearances and on the floor of the House of Commons. The left-wing rebels who aquitted him in Cabinet decisions to beg money from the IMF is also the man of principle now condemned to defend a kind of gerrymandering. Asked if the Government does not keep too many MPs in Scotland for purely party reasons, he rolls his eyes and says: "How can you think such a thing?"

He is also the back-bencher par excellence, now marked with the failure in force through a devolution Bill guillotined in Parliament that would have fallen on back-benchers' necks. Mrs Thatcher called it "shameful" and "discreditable". Michael Foot, knowing that he and other opponents of the EEC were similarly guillotined by the Tories, could only lean affably across the dispatch boxes, and say, "I detect a note of criticism..."

Irony, perseverance, sometimes silence. With these devices, he carries on, walked with disappointment by some of his old friends on the left

and by others with the sort of admiration St Sebastian probably had from the bystanders as the arrows went in.

It is, at 63, the most extraordinary climax to his career. One of his Cabinet colleagues says: "On any normal view of indispensability, he is the most important man in the Government." One of his old leftist friends puts it more mordantly: "He's been driven back step by step. The only strength he has left now is the strength of Samson: to pull everything crashing down to where he chose to stand."

Certainly, the paradoxes press in. Of notorious sweet nature in private, he once recently lost his temper and started shouting at dinner because he was being persistently attacked for supporting a right-wing government.

He still keeps up a rumpled and unaffected style of dress.

At the state opening of Parliament, while colleagues like Fred (now Lord) Pilkington were in the most outlandish way,

he, Lord President of the Council, wore a lounge suit. When for the first time he was invited to Downing Street dinner with the Queen, on Harold Wilson's retirement, he decided to wear a dinner suit. He had to be dissuaded from donning the one he had worn more than 40 years earlier, at Oxford.

Not only does the Prime Minister treat him carefully—as befits a man who came a very impressive second in the leadership election—but he also arouses in him much genuine goodwill. Michael Foot, who had the whip withdrawn from him in the days of much fiercer Labour battles than those today, is unlikely to forget how Callaghan voted in 1955 to withdraw the whip from his hero, Bevan. But he now praises his sincerity and capacity.

Obviously, Michael Foot is intriguing because of the balance of political forces he represents: his presence at the centre of a weak Labour administration lies in the trade unions and the radical left at Westminster in a grindingly right-wing still dominant in Cabinet. So far, the show has stayed on the road.

But he also demonstrates the influence of personality on politics. There is no one quite like him in the party, and probably no one else's mixture of skills, emotions and particular weaknesses could have set the constellation in the sky of the present Labour Government.

He had a childhood of books and politics, middle-class, West Country and Liberal. There were seven children, and three of his brothers also became public figures. Somehow, in



brook, who delighted in collecting left-wingers. Foot, in his twenties, wrote leaders for the *Evening Standard* and edited it during the war.

When the war ended, and party politics got back to normal, he resigned from the Standard, explaining he planned to wage perpetual war against the policies of the Express group, though not, he emphasized, its proprietor. He became an MP for Dagenham. Later, Beaverbrook gave Foot £3,000 to bail out *Tribune*, which he was running at the time, though in a very businesslike way.

Although the friendship had cooled in the early days of the Labour Government, it resumed after this incident, and Foot took a cottage on Beaverbrook's estate at Cherkley.

Foot had berated the newspaper magnates enthusiastically in Parliament. He told the 1947 Royal Commission on the Press after a speech characterizing megalomania as an occupational disease of the press proprietors of the exact way in which he had to operate a "blacklist" on the Standard. People like Paul Robeson were blacklisted for political reasons, he said, and there was a constant stream of editorial directives from the proprietor.

Almost 30 years later, his experiences surfaced again, in

a long controversy with some Fleet Street editors. As Secretary of State for Employment, he was instrumental in dismantling the Tory Industrial Relations Act, he gave an unapologetic call to his

plaints that, by not outlawing union closed shops in newspapers, he was threatening the freedom of the press. His sarcasm, as an ex-editor, was directed at the idea that editors had been free from interference in the past.

His great idol, of course, was Bevan. He and Jill were the closest of friends with Bevan and Jennie Lee: he admired his wit, his Welshness, his poetic oratory, his intelligence and his political ideas. Foot had quickly found himself out on the Labour party's radical limb after the war, fighting German rearmament and then nuclear weapons; there was a bitter quarrel when Foot, the Bevanite and nuclear disarmer, had to stomach Bevan's notorious "naked into the conference chamber" speech of 1957, in which he rejected unilateralism.

Bevan was more savage than Foot has ever been as a politician. Nor would Foot claim anything approaching Bevan's oratory. But some people would detect a faint parallel between the statesmanlike mantle Bevan put on in 1957, and the sacrifice of his freedom Foot made

in 1974 when he went into the government. The argument is that just as Sam Watson, the miners' leader, persuaded Bevan that world peace depended on him, so Jack Jones persuaded Michael Foot that a return of industrial peace after the Heath trauma (and the Wilson In Place of Strife trauma before that) depended on Foot himself.

Michael Foot has a crucial side as a literary man. His two-volume biography of Bevan, written over 12 years with a three-year gap after a bad car accident when he was unable to work, is widely praised for its grasp and plain, pure prose style. It is attacked for painting Bevan too white and for being unfair to Gaitskell.

It is fairly easy to draw a picture of Michael Foot as an almost totally eighteenth-century character: stylist, rationalist, polemicist, and parliamentarian. A bibliophile like his father, he has an unrivalled collection of Hazlitt, and what he admires about him is revealing. Hazlitt was a left-wing partisan, not afraid of partisanship, and full of distaste for "moderates" and those who betrayed his own side. But he is also fascinated by Stendhal and Heine: half romantic, half-realistic, he says.

Foot's performance as an orator is famous: he speaks without notes, which means the only his parliamentary utterances tend to be preserved.

Nor do his crescendos, the whirling arms and the flailing white hair, become obvious in the study. But, going back through *Hansard*, it is possible to see something of what semi-MPs flooding out of the tea-rooms whenever the Commons annunciator showed he was speaking.

He often starts sweetly, in the words he uses of Bevan's openings. The withering criticisms are sometimes vitriolic, sometimes teasing. Attacking in 1969, what he called a "Reith Robinson" plan (of his own front bench, naturally enough) for House of Lords reform, he conjured up a compelling picture of national crises being settled by self-styled cross-benchers in the Lords. And he poured scorn on the idea of Commons party whips selecting peers: "Think of it! A second chamber selected by the whips. A seraglio of sunuchs."

Mr Callaghan, then Home Secretary, and answering the Lords reform debate for the Government, but some people would detect a faint parallel between the statesmanlike mantle Bevan put on in 1957, and the sacrifice of his freedom Foot made

in the ground, in the way that, paradoxically again, House of Commons men have now succeeded in doing with Michael Foot's own, inherited devolution Bill.

Foot's passion for parliament is called reactionary by some. He is completely hostile to the efforts of Commons reformers to move MPs out of the debating chamber into specialist committees. He calls them "sewing parties". He does not see the place as a piece of machinery in that fashion, but as a great vehicle for clash and argument and ruse.

The conscience of the left, as Michael Foot became, reached power of a real kind late in his career. On the face of it, it was a strange change. He himself wrote: "The love of liberty is the love of others, the love of ourselves." Is it a charge that can fairly be levelled at the most gentlemanly, the most Libertarian of politicians?

Harold Wilson certainly tried with giving Michael Foot office. According to those close to him, Michael Foot was run up by Wilson when the 1964 government came to power, and he would eventually be given office. When Frank Cousins left the Ministry of Technology, Foot was told at second-hand that he was being considered for the job. He had not originally been adverse to a job, but by then he was deeply hostile to British support for the Americans in Vietnam, and wrote to Wilson telling him so: it avoided the embarrassment of Wilson having his offer refused.

When the administration fell, Foot stood for the Shadow Cabinet, and made an immediate impression there. One of his supporters was Frank Cousins, who was then in prospect, and his supporters were excitedly planning a victory party. As it was, his 130 votes showed how much the party thought of him. He had to be given an important job.

Michael Foot himself would undoubtedly argue that what he is engaged in is a task well worth sacrificing temporary acclaim for. (He would possibly take the same line on India, where he has angered and disappointed many by his refusal to condemn Mrs Gandhi outright. He visits her instead, and his track record makes it unlikely he ever encouraged rights.)

As Michael Foot sits on the front bench, night after night, he has had to listen to young Tribune MPs like Neil Kinnock attack his and the Government's devolution. Bill Kinnock, personal friend of Foot, comes from Trefegar, where Bevan was born and died. Foot's friends say: "It was wonderful to see him or Mr Foot, though skilful, overawed by the picture a little". But Foot, in an alliance with that other great House of Commons man, Enoch Powell, won in the

departmental civil servants were good. They found him good company, and he did not need or want to change any of them. In Cabinet, he set about a deliberate style of bridge-building and intense argument. His colleagues noted that while some left-wingers spoke pretty obviously for the record, he sought to convince.

But he went into the government knowing what compromise it implied. He told friends he knew one had to compromise in Cabinet, and he realized that, if he had realized the limitations and constraints of power, he would have written his second volume of Bevan's biography set after the war.

He could probably have stayed at Employment if he had wished. Few of his colleagues thought it was a muddling play by Callaghan to give him charge of devolution. Leader of the House seemed a genuinely suitable job for such a parliamentarian, and he does actually believe in the idea of home rule. Typically, he set about reading all the literary works of previous Leaders of the House.

There was even, after Wilson resigned, a mad couple of days when it seemed as if he might become Prime Minister. At one point, 150 votes, almost a majority, were in prospect, and his supporters were excitedly planning a victory party. As it was, his 130 votes showed how much the party thought of him. He had to be given an important job.

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front row.

With the return to power, he went to Employment. The whole rapport with the unions and the social contract was undoubtedly his doing. Another of his friends says: "It was wonderful to see him or Mr Foot, though skilful, overawed by the picture a little". But Foot, in an alliance with that other great House of Commons man, Enoch Powell, won in the

front row.

For a bit of Bevan. He must even remind him, sometimes, of the old Foot, himself. Who speaks for Labour's future? Or will they both go down together into the margins of history?

David Leigh

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# Why has Europe enthusiastically adopted the 20AX colour TV system?



Because this new 110° colour tube system is the most important advance in set design since the arrival of colour TV itself. Tube bulkiness and circuit complexities have been 'designed-out'. The result? Slimmer, elegant, more reliable sets which warm up fast, maintaining a first-class colour picture over a much longer period.

20AX – it's known as 'Eurocolour' across the Channel – is a dramatically simpler way to get colour TV precisely right. It is

corners. The 20AX system achieves this automatically, eliminating many components and adjustments required in conventional sets.

### What does this mean for the viewer?

For a start, the fewer the components, the fewer there are to go wrong. But there's more to 20AX than that. Not only does it give an excellent picture with perfect colour registration right out to the corners, but this quality is maintained for a long, long time. In other words, better picture quality and greater reliability.



### Any other advantages?

Certainly, 20AX has the bonus of a 'quick warm-up' filament – which means a picture within about five seconds, without leaving the set plugged in on stand-by, which is safer and saves electricity.

And the new Mullard 20AX 110° tube needs less space, so 20AX sets are slimmer than sets with conventional tubes.

### What does this mean for Britain?

Mullard, now Britain's only TV tube maker, has invested £7 million in re-equipping three of its factories to produce the new tubes and components wanted for 20AX. This investment is already paying off in a number of ways.

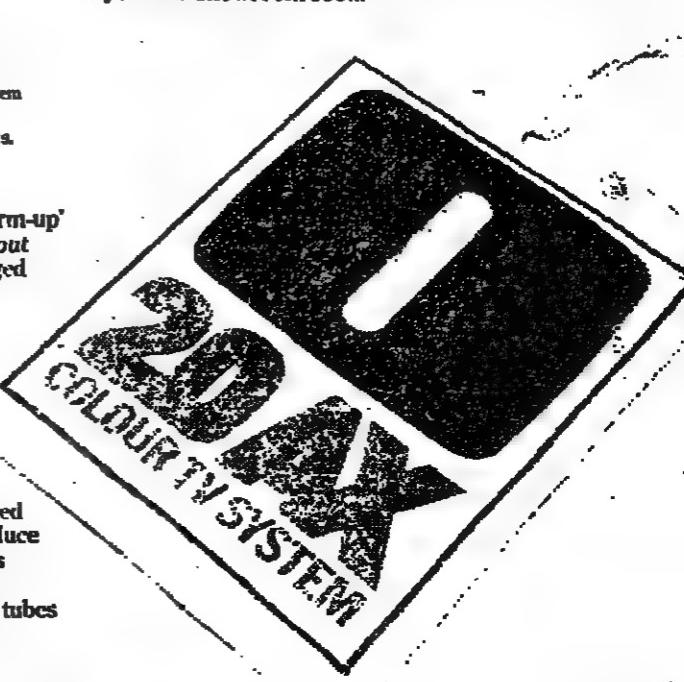
In 1976, in addition to the £6 million worth of 20AX tubes and components which Mullard exported to Europe,

British-made TV sets – using 20AX components from Mullard – were capturing a share of this discerning market. Europe demands sets which provide high reliability and embody the very latest technology. With 20AX British set manufacturers were well able to satisfy these requirements.

We are proud that 20AX is spearheading the British TV export drive for both the set manufacturers and Mullard. And, of course, on both counts British jobs are protected.

### 20AX looks like a great leap forward

It is indeed. So when you come to buy or hire your next colour TV, demonstrate your knowledge, ask the sales person about 20AX. You're bound to see the 20AX symbol in your TV showroom soon.



a technological advance which represents more than twenty years research and development and marks a new era in television electronics design. No other 110° colour tube system in the world is so advanced.

### What is the 20AX system?

It is the only fully self-converging slimline 110° tube system available for picture tubes in 18, 20, 22 and 26 inch sizes.

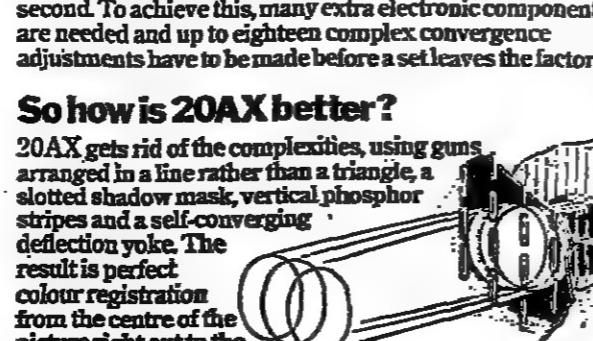
### How do ordinary TV sets work?

Until now the inside of most colour TV screens has been coated with a million dots of red, green and blue phosphors, arranged in tiny triangles.

The dots become a colour picture when they are made to glow by firing beams of electrons at them from three electron guns housed in the neck of the picture tube.

The guns, one for each colour, are arranged, like the dots, in a triangle.

The beams are guided to their targets through thousands of tiny holes in what is known as a shadow mask. Getting



**Mullard**



للمزيد من المعلومات

The dangers in  
a price  
freeze, Hugh  
Stephenson, p 23

THE TIMES MONDAY MARCH 14, 1977

# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

الجامعة

# Treasury forecast offers hope for £1,000m tax cuts within IMF loan conditions

By David Blake

Economics Correspondent

With preparations for the March 29 Budget well advanced the latest Treasury forecast of the economy confirms that the Chancellor could give away in the region of £1,000m in tax relief without breaking the IMF limits on public borrowing.

The forecast, prepared each year to guide the Chancellor in his Budget deliberations, is also believed to predict that inflation by the end of the year will be lower than seemed likely in December with total public sector borrowing during the current tax year possibly more than £1,000m less than predicted at the time of the IMF application.

Whitehall officials say that the Treasury forecast is "within a few hundred million" of the £1,000m consensus forecast as the figure by which public borrowing next year would undershoot the £8,700m limit imposed in the IMF Letter of Intent, assuming policies remain unchanged.

That gives Mr Healey some room for manoeuvre in his declared intention of reducing income tax.

The Chancellor is committed to try to deal with the overlap which occurs between those who pay income tax at the standard rate of 35 per cent and the mainly means-tested benefits which have accrued as a combination of tax relief and loss of benefits means that some people face very high marginal rates of taxation on "poverty traps".

Against this is the problem that raising indirect taxes has a more obvious inflationary impact. Since the trade unions are clearly very concerned about the way price rises are continuing after a long period of relative wage restraint, there may be pressure on him to peg indirect taxes if it helps to get a new round of pay rises.

To do this in such a way that the poverty trap lost its bite would, however, result in means-tested benefits being paid to people on twice average earnings in some cases, which strikes at the very heart of the notion that these benefits are aimed specifically at those in most need.

A second solution would be to introduce a low rate of tax on some portion of taxable income, which in some ways would be a return to the old system where tax rates rose gently. Quite apart from the fact that such a scheme would be administratively complex it would also be very expensive if it were to be effective.

Because of this the third obvious option—increasing the allowances deducted from gross pay in order to work our taxable income—still seems the most likely. This would be similar to Mr Healey's tactic last year.

Even this means would still involve quite considerable concessions to stop the tax bill for individual wage-earners rising, as "fiscal drag" takes its toll. Because of this it is still uncertain whether the Chancellor will decide to raise indirect taxes.

He is known however to favour a switch towards indirect taxes. The Chancellor's view is that changes over the years have brought many more people into the income tax net operated in such a way as to investigate the traditional argument against indirect taxes—that they are regressive.

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## Washington talks on 'Downing St summit'

From Fred Emery

Washington, March 13

Just how the Chancellor links his Budget tax proposals with a new pay policy remains perhaps the most difficult question. Last year he spoke out tax concessions in detail but said that they were conditional on a satisfactory negotiation on pay restraint. Such a system is not ruled out in this year's Budget, but opposition from within the Cabinet and the trade unions would seem to make it not the most likely option.

Other alternatives include making firm concessions in the Budget speech as a sort of opening offer, and holding out the prospect of further measures later if pay restraints are agreed, or spelling out very explicitly what sort of pay restraint he wants and leaving the details of the tax rather more vague.

Participants at yesterday's meeting concluded their business in one day, rather than the two originally set. They cautioned that while preparations for London were being undertaken with greater thoroughness and intensity than those for the last summit, at Puerto Rico last June, a meeting where "great decisions" were taken was not in store.

In managing the world's economy better, they said, the executive decisions came after such political meetings—at the International Monetary Fund and the like.

Yesterday's discussions, described as "low-key" saw a first raising of the agenda issues that are self-evident—concern over sustaining the rate of world economic expansion, and how best to keep going the three most powerful economies—American, German and Japanese.

Mr Callaghan left with the impression that Mr Carter was still prodding both the others to refine.

The question of Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries' surplus raised by Mr Callaghan in his rather gloomy analysis of continued slow growth, was despite the international backlog, unchanged during the past few months, according to a congressional report.

Prepared by the staff of the Senate sub-committee on foreign economic policy, the report said the recent loans would do nothing to remedy the serious structural weaknesses in the British economy.

If the social contract broke down, the report foresees either new inflationary wage demands or widespread strike.

The reforms call for much greater disclosure of share dealings, further attacking the activities of unscrupulous operators who "warehouse" shares secretly in order to spring a bid at a cheaper price than might otherwise be necessary.

From April 18 all companies

will be able to demand to know who lies behind the nominee

holders on their share registers

and so will be able to flush out potential bidders.

From the same date all holders of more than 5 per cent of any quoted company's shares

will have until May 14 working days to declare their hold-

ing to the company.

Under amended listing require-

ments, as soon as a company is notified of a 5 per cent holding it must immediately pass the information on to the Stock Exchange.

As such announcements are almost in-

variably made at the last minute a rush of hundreds of declara-

tions can be expected on May 5.

The Stock Exchange intends

to publish them on its boards

and keen interest in assessing

the potential effect on prices is

to be expected.

Unlike the previous 10 per

cent rule, 5 per cent disclosure

will draw in many last-minute

holders. Any request, and its

answer, must be declared with

the shareholders' register

although, so far, The Stock

Exchange has not made disclosure of such requests a condition of its listing requirements.

Some voices in the City

feel it should.

Jobbers are exempt from the

5 per cent disclosure rule, but

are worried about the effects

of another section of the Act,

which comes into effect on April 18.

This requires disclosure of a

director's dealings in his com-

pany's shares (and to the Stock

Exchange) within five days. A jobber might not be able to

sell them on in time, and the

disclosure could restrict his

market.

Although there is a general

interest in the overall effects

of the provisions, it is widely

recognized that any shareholder

who really wishes to remain

anonymous will still be able

to do so by using foreign

nominees or finding other loop-

holes.

But the 1976 Act is regarded

only as an interim reform of

company law, while definitions for such problems as insider

trading are still sought, and the

effects of such disclosures may be wider than many believe.

## Companies Act reform in effect on April 18

By Nicholas Hirst

Two of the most significant reforms of the 1976 Companies Act, which could radically affect the value of shares quoted on the Stock Exchange, come into effect next month.

The reforms call for much greater disclosure of share dealings, further attacking the activities of unscrupulous operators who "warehouse" shares secretly in order to spring a bid at a cheaper price than might otherwise be necessary.

From April 18 all companies will be able to demand to know who lies behind the nominee

holders on their share registers and so will be able to flush out potential bidders.

Companies have shown considerable interest in the section which allows them to discover the beneficial holdings of shares. Any request, and its

answer, must be declared with the shareholders' register although, so far, The Stock

Exchange has not made disclosure of such requests a condition of its listing requirements.

Jobbers are exempt from the

5 per cent disclosure rule, but

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## Business appointments

**Three corporate finance directors named by Chase Manhattan Bank**

Mr Donald C. Roth is to join Chase Manhattan (Asia) as executive director in charge of corporate finance for the Pacific basin area. Before joining he was senior vice-president in the corporate finance department of Merrill Lynch, based in London. Mr John Walker-Haworth becomes an associate director in the corporate finance department. He was formerly senior member in the corporate finance division of Cazenove and Company. Mr Ove Lindemann has joined Chase Manhattan Ltd in London as an associate director in its European placing activities. He was formerly a partner in James Capel and Company.

Mr John Clement, chief executive of Unigate, is to become chairman and chief executive in September after the retirement of Sir James Barker, who will also be leaving the board.

Mr Andrew Swan has been appointed to the board of Cosalt.

Mr E. G. Hawkins has joined the board of Hawkins and Tiptos.

Mr John Paterson has been made financial director of the company secretary of Adams Foods.

Mr P. Roberts has become a director of Steetley.

Mr W. R. Merton has succeeded Mr M. F. Berry as chairman of United States and General Trust Corporation.

Mr Keith White and Mr John Bedford have been made joint managing directors of Bristol Foundry.

Mr J. B. McClelland has been appointed a director of London and European Group.

Mr J. M. Carpenter has been made deputy chairman of Carrolls International. Mr J. P. Carroll remains vice-chairman and has become deputy group chief executive.

Mr J. H. Webb, deputy general manager and principal actuary, UK division, has been made a director of Commercial Union Assurance. Mr Kenneth Allen, general manager and chief actuary, will retire on April 30.

Mr N. A. Stokes, formerly finance director of AE Auto Park, becomes deputy managing director, Leyton and the rest of the country, and both join the board of A. E. (Sales). Mr J. L. Hepworth has been succeeded as chairman of Hepworth & Grandage by Mr J. Winstanley, a director of Associated Engineering, the parent company.

Mr C. Ackroyd becomes managing director of components division, Mr D. H. Davies becomes managing director of Hepworth & Grandage.

Mr George Duncan has been appointed to the board of London Brewery and Investment.

Mr Christopher Morgan has been named sales and discrete marketing director of Galashier.

Dr C. D. T. Minson has been made managing director of INTI Opels in succession to Mr P. J. Allen, who is retiring.

Mr Raymond Davies, the Post Office director of Telecommunications pay and grading, is to be director of management development. He takes over in June, succeeding Mr John Morris, who is retiring. Mr Davies will be succeeded by Mr David Saville.

Mr Robert Reid has been appointed a director of British Transport Hotels in place of Mr H. C. Sanderson.



Mr Paul Fox, managing director of Yorkshire Television, and Mr Frank Copplestone, managing director of Southern Television, have joined the board of Independent Television News. They succeed Sir Geoffrey Cox and Mr William Broome.

Mr N. Goodlet has been appointed to the board of Hogg Robinson.

Mr John Golfer has been made a director of Associated Biscuit Manufacturers.

Mr Helmut Mihl-Kähner has been appointed assistant director of Europe/Middle East operations of the Federal government electronics division.

Mrs Ruth Nicholl Black has been appointed to the board of Second Broadcast Trust.

Mr Michael Stretton, who is joint managing director of Atkins of Huckley on April 1, but remains chairman. Mr W. G. Dawson, joint managing director, becomes sole managing director. Mr G. Green will be assistant managing director. Mr R. G. Stanforth joins the board.

Mr David Hoare, a director of Steetley Industries, the Australian subsidiary of The Stanley Coal Company, has been elected a director of the Australian board.

Mr E. W. Harrison has been made managing director of Waller Lines.

The new managing director of New Century Cleaning is Mr Gerald Howarth.

Mr J. I. Gamble, a director of Sabah Timber, has been elected president of the Timber Trade Federation.

Unemployment in Limburg is now running at about 8.5 per cent compared with a national average of 5 to 5.5 per cent for the Netherlands as a whole.

Only the north-eastern province of Drenthe has a higher jobless rate than that of Schipperhe.

Weaning Limburg off its coal mining base was no easy task.

At their peak after the Second World War, the coal mines were the direct employers of 50,000 men. Supporting industries employing many thousands more.

When, in 1965, it was finally decided to close the pits over the following eight years, there were still 45,000 men in the Limburg mines. By way of contrast, the working population today numbers around 240,000, of whom 100,000 are in industry.

Government assistance in the form of tax allowances and investment incentives attracted around 100 companies to the area, creating around 20,000 new jobs.

Much of the industrial and commercial settlement has been on a relatively small scale, the establishment of a large car plant at Born by the Daf car group—now a part of the Volvo concern—proving the exception rather than the rule.

The restructuring of industry created problems, many of which became apparent only during the recession.

Outside companies, many of them from abroad, often embarked on a process of backward integration, setting up first sales outlets and waiting before establishing assembly and manufacturing plants.



Mr John Clement (left), chief executive of Unigate, who is additionally to become chairman in September; Mr J. M. Carpenter (right), who has been made deputy chairman of Carpets International.

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**Recession exposed weakness in Limburg's 'painless' conversion**

Limburg, the southern Dutch province, is a very untypical part of the Netherlands. Geographically it is isolated from the rest of the country, extending south to form a narrow political isthmus surrounded on three sides by Belgium and West Germany. It is also hilly and there is hardly a windmill to be seen.

From 1900 to 1973 Limburg was a typical coal mining area. Empty pithead buildings and abandoned spoil heaps still stick up from the rolling countryside as monuments to the industry that converted a largely rural area into a densely populated industrial region.

When the last colliery was closed in 1973 the Dutch Government, and provincial administration could congratulate themselves on an apparently painless conversion of Limburg's economy from a coal mining base to a more modern and varied industrial structure.

Since then, however, the oil crisis and the recession have exposed weaknesses that show that Limburg still has some way to go before it can claim parity with the most advanced industrial regions in the Netherlands.

Unemployment in Limburg is now running at about 8.5 per cent compared with a national average of 5 to 5.5 per cent for the Netherlands as a whole.

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Weaning Limburg off its coal mining base was no easy task.

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The restructuring of industry created problems, many of which became apparent only during the recession.

Outside companies, many of them from abroad, often embarked on a process of backward integration, setting up first sales outlets and waiting before establishing assembly and manufacturing plants.

When, by the 1960s, the future of coal was beginning to look uncertain, DSM was already switching its chemical activities to an oil base. Since then its group has expanded rapidly.

Group sales last year were around 9,500m guilder (nearly £2,300m) or 10 times the level in 1966.

Today, about half of DSM's annual turnover comes from chemicals. It employs 32,000 people worldwide, with about half in Limburg.

But chemicals are capital intensive rather than labour intensive. Although DSM is still Limburg's largest employer and has expanded its overall workforce appreciably from a low of around 20,000 in 1970, it can never assume the overriding importance as a provider of jobs that it had in the coal era.

The Limburg economy will therefore continue to need support.

**Regional industry in Europe**

Such structures proved to be particularly weak in times of recession.

The Limburg Development Bank, LIOF, maintains that there have been few outright failures of newly formed companies during the recession.

But undoubtedly many companies in Limburg owe their continued existence to support from either the Government or their bankers.

The recession has also cast a cloud over the outlook for future industrial expansion and diversification.

But the present economic condition of Limburg and its general outlook would be far gloomier were it not for the activities of DSM—formerly known as Dutch State Mines.

DSM dates back to 1902, when the Netherlands government set up a limited company, Staatsmijnen, in Limburg to mine for coal in competition with the private, foreign-owned mining companies which had first opened up the Limburg field.

Fortunately, as it turned out, the company diversified in the 1930s into coke and coal gas production, cost-based chemicals and building materials.

When, by the 1960s, the future of coal was beginning to look uncertain, DSM was already switching its chemical activities to an oil base. Since then its group has expanded rapidly.

Group sales last year were around 9,500m guilder (nearly £2,300m) or 10 times the level in 1966.

Today, about half of DSM's annual turnover comes from chemicals. It employs 32,000 people worldwide, with about half in Limburg.

But chemicals are capital intensive rather than labour intensive. Although DSM is still Limburg's largest employer and has expanded its overall workforce appreciably from a low of around 20,000 in 1970, it can never assume the overriding importance as a provider of jobs that it had in the coal era.

The Limburg economy will therefore continue to need support.

**Comecon to push sales at Leipzig Trade Fair**

Leipzig, March 13.—Businessmen from 60 countries are today attending the opening of the traditional Leipzig Spring Fair, held this year in the shadow of heavy eastern European debts to the West and rising raw material costs from the Soviet Union.

Squeezed financially on both sides, East Germany and its fellow members of the Comecon trading group, are expected to push hard to boost exports to the West, while tightening up on imports from outside their own community.

Some 9,000 exhibitors—slightly fewer than half of them from the host country—have set up stands for the week-long fair. This figure has held steady for several years at the traditional market place for East-West trade.

West Germany, by far the East Germans' most important western trading partner, as usual has the largest foreign representation, with the Soviet Union dominating exhibits from Europe.

Western economic experts here foresee no dramatic deals from the fair, although they suspect the East Germans may try to direct expansion in western trade away from West Germany.

With debts to the West now estimated to be running at some DM15,000m (about £3,100m), and faced with a twofold rise in Soviet oil prices over the past two years, East Germans are beginning to show signs of alarm. Unplanned rises in import prices last year brought a 14 per cent increase in foreign trade turnover against a planned 9.7 per cent.

Britain, which traditionally devotes considerable attention to the Leipzig Fair, is hoping this year to put substance into hopes for a rapid expansion in trade expressed last month during a visit to East Berlin by Mr Dell, Secretary of State for Trade.—Reuters.

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With debts to the West now





**by Rodney Co.**  
**important**  
**wing a**  
**strength**

element into its process ensuring that it knows. It has long relied on appraisals by its line managers and will continue to do so for one category of staff; this will now be subject to the introduction of the Assessment Board. Boards are for employees who are probably in their mid-ties or early thirties and are thought to have reasonable potential in this regard as managers.

It is intended to assess people towards a board being attended by

# Barclays 1976

Profits adequate but weak pound and high interest rates bring problems.

*The Annual General Meeting of Barclays Bank Limited will be held in London on April 6th, 1977. The following are extracts from the address to the Stockholders by the Chairman, Mr. Anthony Tuke, for the year 1976.*

Our profits this year at £197.9 million are at first sight satisfactory but we must take into account two important factors which have affected them, both of which from the point of view of our country are unwelcome. The first and most obvious is the substantial fall in the value of the pound since the end of 1975, a fall far greater than any of us could possibly have foreseen in our most pessimistic mood but one which has had the effect of increasing the sterling value of our overseas earnings. Equally important, and almost as regrettable, has been the sharp rise in interest rates in this country during the second half of the year. This has had a marked effect on the Clearing Bank profits, the extent of which was not wholly foreseen at the beginning of the year. But a weak pound and high interest rates bring with them problems for the future: the former is the biggest single handicap with which we, as an international bank, have to contend in a market in which we compete with rivals from the United States, Germany and Japan, all backed by strong currencies. So we would all prefer a strong pound at the expense of making our sterling profits harder to earn. The unprecedented interest rates from which we have been suffering in this country have been caused partly by the Government's need to fund its deficit and we welcome reports that the Chancellor expects rates to fall during 1977. High rates cause difficulties in the lending field and have not helped our remaining lifeboat passengers who have yet to reach the shore. However, new provisions for 1976 are modest in relation to our total support.

Inflation accounting is a subject which has had its full share of space in the newspapers and is an area where the banks must state their case. We fully support the proposals whereby the effect of inflation on companies' operations is reflected in their Accounts. However, because our 'stock' is money, not goods or raw materials, the present exposure draft leaves banks as the main industry whose accounts are virtually unaffected by the new system; yet we all know that the current value of money is itself the measure of inflation and that holders of money suffer from inflation just as much - and perhaps more - than holders of any other asset. We cannot accept that what we regard as no more than adequate bank profits should remain unadjusted for the effect of the fall in the real value of our 'trading' stock and of our related capital, with all the resulting implications for taxation, price control and public evaluation of our performance. We have reason to hope, however, that steps will be taken during the exposure period to reduce the impact of this anomaly.

## Nationalisation

Although a great deal has been written already about the nationalisation of banks, I must inevitably add something lest it be thought that silence infers indifference.

When one looks at the nationalisation of banks, the views of the three main bodies of opinion are important. These are the customers, which in effect means the public, our staff and our stockholders who, after all, are the present owners of the business. The views of our customers are well known and at least four-fifths of them want to leave the banks as they are and continue to permit themselves the opportunity to cross the road if they do not like the service they are getting, and transfer their accounts to a competitor. The Prime Minister, himself, recognised the strength of this feeling when he spoke of bank nationalisation as an electoral albatross. The views of the staff are also quite clear and this has been confirmed by the National Union of Bank Employees and the Staff Associations, which between them represent the vast majority of men and women who work for us. They have firmly stated they do not favour the nationalisation of banks. That leaves the stockholders and, although regrettably their voices are not always listened to nowadays, we believe that the 140,000 or so holders of Barclays shares are not keen to exchange them for a Government stock. They are, we trust, reasonably happy, partly because we have not found it necessary to call on them for more money in the form of a rights issue since 1961 and in those 15 years the yield on their original investment has almost quadrupled.

We hear a great deal nowadays on the subject of the social responsibility of companies, particularly of multinationals. The impression sometimes gets about that these are immensely powerful organisations which have only one object in mind, namely, to take as much profit as possible from countries in which their money is invested. There may have been isolated cases when such an impression was not without foundation, but our Bank has, we believe, invariably made a social contribution in the countries in which it has operated. As an example, in 1970, Barclays Bank International created a Development Fund into which it has transferred 1 per cent of after-tax profits year by year amounting so far to £1.35 million. The money is allocated mainly in Third World countries to support projects which seem desirable on economic or social grounds but which would not attract finance if judged from a purely commercial standpoint. We do not expect a return on this money and, indeed, a great deal of it goes in the form of grants. The formula was based originally on the 1 per cent of GNP, later redefined as 0.7 per cent, which the richer nations were asked to set aside for the Third World. Even at this reduced level only two of the developed countries currently exceed the target and, regrettably, we in Britain are now down to 0.37 per cent. We recognise, however, the special problems faced by governments in maintaining aid programmes and it is clear that the private sector must do what it can to help. The Bank's Development Fund has supported well over one hundred projects and it is intended that these should play a pump priming role for subsequent development. As an example, in Ghana the Fund is making possible the employment by a local company of a specialist who, in eighteen months, has arranged a programme which has brought into rice production some 9,000 acres of undeveloped land.

Southern Africa

As one of the 400 or so British corporate investors in South Africa we have frequently defended our decision not to dispose of our investment. To do so would involve selling our holding in Barclays National Bank to a local South African company. We cannot see how this could possibly help the Africans and it was encouraging to us to hear Mrs. Helen Suzman, a leading opponent of apartheid, confirm recently that withholding investment from South Africa would not change the present regime. Indeed we have been told by more than one independent visitor that our continued presence in South Africa has almost unanimous African support. We have not changed our view about the South African Government's apartheid policy which is morally and economically indefensible in that it imposes unacceptable conditions on the majority of its citizens. There has been progress but it is much too slow and our duty as investors is to do what we can to accelerate that progress. It is a step in the right direction that Namibia (South West Africa) is to be granted full independence in 1978 and we hope the same can be said of Rhodesia, though at the time of writing the prospects of a peaceful transition seem to be receding. As soon as independence is granted, both in Namibia and in Rhodesia, we propose to form local subsidiary companies with, we hope, a proportion of the shares in due course held by Namibians and Rhodesians.

To trade as an international bank these days is not without its hazards and the Arab Boycott is a case in point. Although no less than 40 meetings of the Boycott Committee have taken place in the last 20 years, it is only recently that we have been under criticism and at their meeting in October, we were, we believe, placed on the list. We have never at any time had any form of direct communication from the Boycott Office in Damascus so it is difficult for us to state our case to the decision-makers and I will therefore try in this statement to do so. It seems to us that an international investor should base decisions on a long-term commercial strategy and should try to avoid the compromises which often stem from short-term and political considerations. Following the sequestration of our Egyptian operation in 1956 and the nationalisation in 1970 in Sudan, Barclays International had virtually no interest in the Middle East apart from Israel and our decision some four years ago to invest both directly and indirectly in Arab countries was taken as part of a long-term plan. Since then we have been granted permission to open branches in Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Sharjah and in addition we have invested \$5 million to take up a 50 per cent shareholding in Cairo Barclays International, our partners being the Banque du Caire. We have also opened a Representative's Office in Bahrain. Apart from these direct investments we have as a policy taken substantial participations in loans to Arab countries and our involvement has always been welcomed by the authorities who we feel sure have been aware of our long-standing presence in Israel which goes back some fifty years. Nevertheless, it is in the Arab countries that we have expanded and this policy has never at any time been criticised in Israel. In the last analysis, therefore, we are convinced that an international bank cannot submit to pressure of this sort and must work to support tolerance against intolerance. In this, we believe, we have the backing of many of our Arab banking friends.

## **Electoral Reform**

Until about 15 years ago Bank Chairmen often indulged in the luxury of commenting on the affairs of the nation. Since then the general trend has been that of a shoemaker sticking to his last, so our report to our stockholders confined itself to the affairs of the Bank. During recent months, however, bankers and others have been criticised, not least by some politicians, for overdoing the policy of keeping their heads below the parapet. As the Chairman of what is probably the most far-sighted of our international competitors said recently, the theory of 'nolo contendere' is no longer good enough. Unless communications have completely broken down, a bank with some 2,500 branch managers up and down the country should have some idea of what ordinary men and women are thinking and saying and the clear impression we get is that people are willing to submit to altogether stronger medicine than that which has been given to them during the past year in three separate mouthfuls. The Prime Minister in a number of impressive speeches has warned of sacrifices and unpleasant measures but when the measures are announced they amount to much less than anyone expected. Horace got it about right when he said 'Parturient montes nascetur ridiculus mus'. A single mouse is clearly an understatement when applied to expenditure cuts of £1,000 million in the coming year, but the largest saving is on the capital side which only postpones the problem.

It may be that we are now suffering the consequences of a situation in which political considerations sometimes seem to take precedence over everything else and where it is arguable that the more extreme views within Parliament carry proportionately much more weight than they do in the country as a whole. For this and other reasons we are one of a number of companies which have subscribed to the National Committee for Electoral Reform. We do not expect miracles overnight but public opinion is clearly moving towards a system which reflects more accurately the view of voters as a whole and removes the risk, however remote, that when crucial decisions are taken the interests of the two main political parties could take precedence over the interests of the country.

## **Future Prospects**

**Prospects**

It is never easy to peer into the future but there are obvious signs that we are moving towards a more comfortable balance of payments position, and a combination of the IMF loan and the 'Safety Net' for official sterling balances cannot fail to bring more stable conditions. The new investment which is so badly needed will probably have to wait until interest rates have fallen to more acceptable levels but there is a considerable cloud on the horizon in the shape of the number of people in this country who are anxious to work but remain unemployed. New investment will produce some new jobs in the short run but our long-standing problem of over-manning will mean, of necessity, that industrialists will endeavour to manage with less labour in the future. We learned in the 1930's of the distress caused to young people who had worked hard at school to obtain qualifications and who were quite unable to obtain any sort of job when they left. One can only hope that these days will not return but, during the next five years or so, this must be one of the major problems facing the Government. The economic state of the country inevitably has a bearing on the Bank's prospects, and whilst falling interest rates and a stronger pound may well make profits harder to earn, we hope that a general expansion of trade throughout the world will more than make up for this.

Staff

With the Group network now extending to over seventy countries, we are served by over 90,000 staff of many different races, backgrounds and creeds. This is the nature of an international bank and it means that we are united in a common purpose—the prosperity of the Barclays Group. Although we may never meet more than a very small number of our colleagues, it is this shared aim that binds us together. Those who criticise multi-national companies forget the part that they play in securing unity across frontiers where otherwise there might be little common ground. All those who lead such companies are conscious of, and indeed depend on, these special links. With these thoughts in mind I am sure stockholders would wish to join with me in thanking all the staff of the Barclays Group who have worked so hard during the past year.

Anthony Tuke, Chairman of Barclays Bank Limited

**BARCLAYS**



REGISTERED OFFICE: 54 LOMBARD STREET,  
LONDON EC3P 3AH. REG. NO. 48839.

## The River Plate and General Investment Trust Company, Limited

Salient points from the Annual Report and circulated statement of Mr. T. A. Pilkington.

The Chairman reports a further substantial rise in both gross and net revenue and an increase in dividend of approximately 13 per cent. It is of interest to note that the Company's dividend has increased every year since 1949 except when dividends have been frozen by government decree.

In 1949 the Company's gross revenue was £78,775 compared with £82,421 last year and the value of investments in 1949 amounted to £1,396,181 compared with £1,585,472. During the period just over £1 million has been raised in Debenture and Equity Capital.

Revenue prospects for the current year are considered to be good.

Year Ended	Gross Revenue	Net Revenue	Adjusted Dividend Net	Adjusted Net Asset Value
31st Dec.	£	£	£	£
1973	643,017	329,506	3,762.5P	133.64P
1974	730,551	370,839	4.20P	138.46P
1975	723,914	391,254	4.45P	143.34P
1976	828,421	425,377	5.00P	133.01P

# Williams & Glyn's

announces that the following rates will apply from and including Monday 14th March

Base rate..... 10½ p.a.  
Deposit rate..... 6½ p.a.

WILLIAMS & GLYN'S BANK LTD

## THE STERLING TRUST, LIMITED (incorporated 1881)

An Investment Trust with Trustees Status

An Investment Trust with Trustees Status				
Year ended	Total Assets	For each 25p Share		
31st Dec.	£	p	p	p
1973	30,537,107	180	3.98	3.50
1974	20,119,818	92	4.25	3.85
1975	32,850,793	175	4.87	4.10
1976	36,305,112	198	4.83	4.65

Distribution of Investments as at 31st December 1976  
United Kingdom & Commonwealth (excl. Canada) 51.0%  
North America 40.1%  
Other Countries 8.9%  
100%

Secretary:—

INVESTMENT TRUST SERVICES LTD, 11 Walbrook, London EC4N 8EO

## Willis,Faber (Middle East) SAL and Al-Futtaim

announce the formation in

Dubai  
of

## Al-Futtaim Willis Faber (Private) Limited

The company has been established to handle all classes of insurance and reinsurance business in the United Arab Emirates

P.O. Box 152, Dubai  
United Arab Emirates  
Telephone: 20101/4 Telex: 6152 DB Willis Dubai  
Manager: Christopher Whiteley

## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

### How tourism will benefit stores: More generous shipping cash

Full marks to Hoare Govett for coming up so quickly with an analysis of what the record contribution of tourism means to invisible exports to the retail sector.

The official figures are very recent but it is estimated that retail spending by tourists doubled during 1976 to reach an annual rate of more than £200m. The broker has worked out its proportion of personal consumption (excluding food, housing and transport) at 21.3 per cent.

This says Hoare's retail man, Mr. Reg Cornish, represents additional growth of about 1 per cent with these marginal sales having a disproportionate effect on retail profits.

Hoare's major buys are House of Fraser, Debenhams and Sears Holdings and the broker has not forgotten that the textile and hotel group major also cannot fail to benefit.

Credit Suisse is also swift to appreciate new trends. Shipping is a thorny problem pre-nationalization and many have stopped trying to evaluate shares. But, as far as any broker can, the firm seems to have a line into the behind-the-scenes discussions between government and some of the ship-builders involved.

Compensation, GG's analysts Mr. John Corraford and Mr. Brian Toms calculate, will be rather more generous than the "reference day" price might suggest. They have "good reason to believe" that compensation for Yarrow might be twice the apparent reference period value of £4m and similarly for the Austin & Pickersgill subsidiary of London & Overseas Freighters.

The first quarter of 1976 started off with earnings 44 per cent higher than the year-earlier quarter. By the fourth quarter, the gain had shrunk to 21 per cent over the corresponding 1975 period.

The economic letter says the January-February freeze that slower industrial output in many parts of the country is likely to have a strong influence on first-quarter 1977 profits.

The economists forecast that "a steady flow of discouraging manufacturers' profits never regained their pre-recession peak and have been slipping for the past year.

"A flattening-out of corporate earnings as experienced in 1976," the letter says, "is typical of the second year of a

recovery period. The rapid upswing of profits in the first year of recovery, reflecting expanded sales volume and increased productivity, is ordinarily replaced in the second year with a period of slower sales growth and greater pressure on profit margins".

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**Weatherall  
Green & Smith**

**Chartered Surveyors · Estate Agents**  
London · Leeds · Paris · Nice · Frankfurt

## **Capitalization and week's change**

Account Days : Dealings Begin, Today. Dealings End, March 25. § Contango Day, March 26. Settlement Day, April 5.

**5 Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.**

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

# **DOUGLAS**

## **CIVIL ENGINEERING & BUILDING CONTRACTOR**

**BIRMINGHAM - CARDIFF - GLASGOW - LONDON  
STOCKTON-ON-TEES - SWANSEA - WIGAN**





## SECRETARIAL

## RETARY

Film Company W.T.  
£3,500+  
The chairman wants a senior  
secretary. This is a responsible  
and well informed position  
involving handling of  
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## 2 Very Special People!

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Architects office opposite  
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and busy atmosphere.  
Experience essential. Should be  
able to programme own  
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1974, 1500cc. Beautiful body  
condition. Impeccable  
driving. 54,000 miles. £6000

TRAMMER ROVER 2000  
Capri. Tel. 01-500 1100. Tel.

1974, 1500cc. Diesel saloon. May  
white blue. Interior, tan  
leather. 12,500 miles. £4,995.

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miles. All extras. Excellent condition.  
£3,995. Tel. 01-500 1100.

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blue. 1974. 5,000 miles. £10,000.  
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Interior, tan. 1974. Tel. 01-500 1100.

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Wanted 31

Box No. regular should be 31

The Times, 14, 15, 22

New Printing House Square, 22

Grays Inn Road, E.C. 22

Deadline for cancellations and 22

advertisements to come 22

please note that the deadline is 12 noon

Saturday and will be listed in 22

the advertisements. On any 22

day you see an advertisement 22

cancel it by telephoning the 22

cancellation line. See 22

PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD. 22

We make every endeavour 22

to ensure that all advertisements 22

are carefully checked and 22

advertisements are handled 22

in the most professional manner 22

we ask therefore that you check 22

your advertisement before 22

you send it to us. We do not 22

charge for cancellation 22

Please send your cancellation 22

letter to Classified 22

Querries department immediately 22

(Ex. 7180). We regret that we 22

cannot be responsible for 22

any day's uncorrected 22

insertion in the paper. 22

"THAT which I say not teach 22

you if I have done singly 22

will do no more." 22

BIRTHS

APPIAN.—On March 11th, in 22

Jordan, son of Magdalene 22

HARRIS.—On March 11th, in 22

Johannesberg, to John 22

and Diane, daughter of 22

COLVER.—On March 10th, at 22

Jesmond, to Robert and 22

Edward, son of 22

CONSTABLE.—MABEL MARX.—On 22

March 8th, at Royal Hampshire 22

Regiment, Winchester, to 22

Peter and Virginia, a daughter 22

DIXON.—On March 10th, in Susan 22

Lane, Knight, and Andrew 22

DOLMAN.—On March 11th, at 22

Collegiate School, Elstree, Hertfordshire, to Edward, son of 22

EDWARD.—On March 11th, in 22

Jordan, son of 22

EVANS.—On March 11th, in 22

Wales, to Christopher 22

KELLY.—On March 11th, in 22

Victoria, to Wimborne, and 22

Gerald, third daughter, a 22

leader. See 22

LEADER.—On 12th March at 22

Nicola (born Shirley) Forbes, and 22

Tim Leader, father and brother 22

LE BRETON PARKER.—On 12th 22

March, to Robert and 22

Julian, son of 22

MORRISON—CAMPBELL.—On 12th 22

March, to Gillian (nee Bellman) 22

and Alan, son of 22

NOEL.—WILFRED.—On 12th 22

March, to Diane, daughter of 22

PAUL.—MARGARET.—On 12th 22

March, to Alison (nee Noll), and 22

PETER.—ANGELA.—Son, Elizabeth 22

WHATLEY.—On March 11th, 22

1977, at Queen Mary's, Romford, 22

Essex, to Julian, son of 22

WEINSTEIN.—On March 11th, at 22

Queen Elizabeth's Hospital, Waltham 22

Wood, Middlesex, to Jacqueline 22

and Katherine Anne, sister 22

for Rebecca. 22

ACROSS

1 He has reason to be fal- 22

lacious (7).

5 Wise man might drop his 22

doctor for another (7).

9 A big noise at cards (5, 4). 22

10 After a bad start, we return 22

in strength (5).

11 She puts on red for an old 22

king (5).

12 Is bound to succeed (9).

14 Talk of the Panjandrum, if 22

not of parsnip-busters? (7).

17 During which Nature tried 22

her hand on man (Burns) (14).

21 Complain like that of 22

timorous little grasper (9).

23 Means of transport part 22

of some distance (5).

24 Cars those who make a 22

bare living afford it? (5).

25 Arctic accommodation should 22

suit them (9).

26 They seek any diversion to 22

identify themselves (7).

27 Where government's con- 22

cerned, it pays one to be 22

civil (7).

DOWN

1 This somehow gets in a ring (6).

2 To win game, does he go to 22

work on an egg? (7).

3 No decline otherwise in lazi- 22

ness (9).

4 No, it's not used for typing 22

TV programmes (11).

Solution of Puzzle No 14,549

AUSTRALIA.—SOUTH AUSTRALIA.— 22

NEW SOUTH WALES.— 22

QUEENSLAND.— 22

TAJIKISTAN.— 22